

# THE Nonconformist.

Cornelius Rufus Nelson

25 Bouvierie St

Fleet Street

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVIII.—NEW SERIES, NO. 644.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 1858.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED . 5d.  
STAMPED ..... 6d.

## LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

At a SPECIAL MEETING of the above Society, held in EXETER HALL, on THURSDAY, Feb. 18, for the purpose of extending its operations in India,

Right Hon. the Earl of SHAFESBURY in the Chair,

The following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Moved by T. CHAMBERS, Esq., Common Serjeant, seconded by Rev. Dr. ARCHER, and supported by Rev. R. C. MATHER and Rev. J. SMITH, Missionaries from Bengal,—

"That the London Missionary Society, having, for the last half-century, employed devoted labourers in different parts of India, whose various exertions God has been pleased to crown with distinguished success, should take its fair proportion of effort for extending the blessings of the Gospel among the teeming multitudes yet involved in heathen darkness; and that, accordingly, the directors employ their best efforts with all classes of their constituents, to enable them to send forth, within the next two years, at the least twenty additional Missionaries, to aid in carrying onward this great enterprise."

Moved by W. E. BAXTER, Esq., M.P., seconded by the Rev. W. CURLING, M.A., and supported by Sir C. E. EARDLEY, Bart.—

"That, although this meeting, in common with the friends of Christian missions, would most seriously deprecate the employment of authority or patronage on the part of the British Government in India to induce its native subjects to embrace the Christian faith, it nevertheless most urgently appeals to the Government to withdraw its countenance from every form of idolatry, to withhold its sanction from the monstrous social evils connected with caste, while it secures to all classes, whether Christian, heathen, or Mohammedan, entire religious freedom, so far as is compatible with civil rights and public order."

Moved by G. H. DAVIS, Esq., Secretary to the Religious Tract Society, and seconded by Rev. J. KENNEDY, A.M.,—

"That in contemplating an extension of Christian missions in India, the directors cherish an entire and prayerful reliance on the Divine Redeemer, the Great Head of the Church, to sanction and prosper their humble endeavours for the advancement of his kingdom, by disposing the hearts of his people liberally to contribute the free-will offerings required for the enterprise—by raising up well-qualified evangelists, willing to consecrate themselves to this great service—by guiding them to their appropriate fields of labour—and, by the outpouring of his Holy Spirit, to render their various efforts successful in the conversion of the heathen, and the establishment of his kingdom."

Moved by J. FINCH, Esq., and seconded by JOSEPH EAST, Esq.,—

"That the very cordial thanks of this meeting be presented to the Right Honourable the Earl of Shafesbury, for his kindness in presiding on the present occasion."

CONTRIBUTIONS in aid of the Fund for the above purpose:—

	£ s. d.
E. C.	500 0 0
Miss Patterson	200 0 0
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Rev. E. Proul	10 0 0
Rev. Dr. Tidman	10 0 0
Miss Wontner	10 0 0
Union Chapel, Islington, Rev. H. Allon and friends, including an Annual Subscription of 5d.	240 0 0
Increased Annual Subscriptions	35 0 0
Collection at Exeter Hall	40 14 9

ARTHUR TIDMAN, EBENEZER PROUT, Secretaries.  
Mission House, Blomfield-street, March 2, 1858.

## TO the MEMBERS of LARGE FIRMS.

GENTLEMEN,—I am directed to beg your attention to the succeeding Advertisement, and to request that you would give those on your Establishment an opportunity of contributing to this truly National Work.

Your obedient Servant,  
J. ADAIR, Hon. Sec.

## HAVELock MEMORIAL FUND.

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The Right Hon. R. VERNON SMITH, M.P.

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HON. SECRETARY—Major J. ADAIR.

That the object of the Committee is the erection of a suitable MONUMENT in commemoration of the eminent Services of the late General Sir HENRY HAVELOCK, K.C.B., and his brave Companions in Arms.

They have great pleasure in announcing that Her Majesty's Government, with the express sanction and approval of Her Majesty, have granted the site in TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.

That any Surplus Funds be appropriated to an Endowment for the benefit of the Widows and Orphans of Officers and Soldiers who have fallen in the recent Battles and Victories under General Havelock, and who are so honourably associated with his name and memory; to a suitable Memento to Lady Havelock and her Daughters; or to such other purposes as it may hereafter be ascertained by the Committee would have met with the approval of the late distinguished General.

SUBSCRIPTIONS received at the Bank of England and its Branches; by Messrs. DRUMMOND, Charing-cross; Messrs. BARCLAY, BEVAN, and CO., LOMBARD-STREET; Messrs. HERRIES, FARQUHAR, and CO., ST. JAMES'S-STREET; Messrs. HOARE and CO., FLEET-STREET; Messrs. WILLIAMS, DEACONS, and CO., BIRCHIN-LANE; Messrs. COX and CO., CHARING-CROSS; Messrs. RANSOM and CO., 1, PALL-MALL EAST; Messrs. COUTTS and CO., STRAND; and at the Committee Room, 3, PALL-MALL EAST.

All Post-office Orders must be made payable to the "Cashiers of the Bank of England;" and no individuals are authorised to solicit or receive Subscriptions.

COMMITTEE ROOM—3, PALL-MALL EAST, LONDON, S.W.

## THE VOTE by BALLOT.—An ADDRESS

of THANKS from the FRIENDS of the BALLOT to WILLIAM NICHOLSON, Esq., of Melbourne, Victoria, for his Services to the Cause of Reform in establishing the VOTE by BALLOT at the Election of Members of the Legislatures of our Australian Colonies, will be presented to that Gentleman prior to his return to Victoria, at the FREEMASONS' TAVERN, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, April 14th. The Hon. F. HENRY F. BERKELEY, M.P., will preside, and other Members of Parliament and Gentlemen will take part in the proceedings. Further particulars will be announced.

Proceedings to commence at Half-past Six o'clock.

Admission by Tickets, price 3s. (including Refreshments), to be had at the Freemasons' Tavern, and at the Ballot Society's Offices, 5, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street, E.C.

THE ASYLUM for IDIOTS, Earlswood, Redhill, Surrey, and Essex Hall, Colchester, for the Care and Education of the Idiot, especially in the earlier periods of life.

His Grace the Duke of WELLINGTON has appointed WEDNESDAY, 31st instant, for the ANNIVERSARY DINNER of this Charity, at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET.

JOHN CONOLLY, M.D., (Gratuitous Secretary.

ANDREW REED, D.D., (Secretary.

The Office, 29, Poultry, is open from Ten to Five daily, where forms of application and all needful information may be obtained.

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## THE ASYLUM for IDIOTS, Earlswood,

Redhill, Surrey, and Essex Hall, Colchester, for the Care and Education of the Idiot, especially in the earlier periods of life.

The NEXT SPRING ELECTION and ANNUAL MEETING of this Charity will occur on THURSDAY, the 29th of April, at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET.

The Board have resolved to take Twenty-five Cases on this occasion. They have great pleasure in making this declaration; and it is their hope and intention not to return to a less number, provided the public will sustain them in the effort. Applications for the next Election should be made forthwith.

Bankers—The London Joint-Stock Bank, Princes-street, City.

The Board request a perusal of the last Report, which may be had (gratuitously, on application) at the office.

Office, 29, Poultry (E.C.), March, 1858.

## DEVONSHIRE-SQUARE CHAPEL, BISHOPSGATE-STREET.

The Rev. J. H. HINTON'S Ninth LECTURE on REDEMPTION—Subject: "The BLESSEDNESS of REDEMPTION"—on SUNDAY EVENING, March 7th, at Half-past Six.

## STOCKWELL INDEPENDENT CHAPEL.

On SUNDAY NEXT, the Rev. DAVID THOMAS will deliver a LECTURE in the above place. Subject: "The Outward World awaiting a Tremendous Crisis." The "Biblical Liturgy" will be used.

Service to commence at Eleven o'clock.

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## PROPOSED MEMORIAL to GENERAL HAVELOCK.

It was well stated by a noble earl in the House of Lords, on the occasion of the re-assembling of the present Session of Parliament, that when the intelligence of the death of General Havelock arrived in England, it filled every heart with sorrow, as though the whole population had experienced a private and a personal loss. It were altogether needless to speak of the heroic bravery, the undaunted courage, and above all the high Christian character and conduct of the lamented General, who in the very midst of his triumphs was called away to honour more enduring than any that earth can bestow. There seems, however, a very strong desire on the part of Christians in England to perpetuate his memory in such a manner as it is thought General Havelock himself would heartily have approved.

The Soldiers in his Regiment have lost not only a distinguished General, but a real friend. Their spiritual interests were always to him a matter of deep concern; and the glorious title, "Havelock's Saints," has already passed into an imperishable proverb. What could be a more fitting Memorial, than, to the constant and untiring efforts of General Havelock amongst his soldiers, than to supply them at once with an efficient and Christian Guide, who shall endeavour to carry on the good work so nobly begun?

It has been proposed to the Committee of the Soldiers' Friend and Army Scripture Readers' Society to take the matter up at once, and appeal to Christians of all Evangelical denominations in England for Funds to enable them to send, without further delay, a Missionary or Scripture Reader to General Havelock's Regiment. The proposal needs no special paper setting forth its claims—it bears abundantly its own recommendation; and the Committee earnestly trust that the Funds required for the permanent maintenance of a Scripture Reader in that Regiment may speedily be obtained, and that the hearts of those brave men who lament their General's death with all the bitterness of a soldier's grief, may be comforted by one who shall set before them the same blessed hope and promises on which we know General Havelock loved to dwell.

## HAVELOCK MEMORIAL.

DEAR MR. BLAKE.—There can but be one opinion as to the duty of the nation to mark its high sense of gratitude to such men as Lawrence and Havelock; and therefore we are glad to see that monuments are to be erected to their memory. As it regards the former, it has been well determined to superadd what would not fail to prove the most acceptable memorial to himself, could he be appealed to, viz., the endowment of the schools which he so nobly founded, and munificently supported.

Would it not be well to effect a Havelock Memorial in the appointment and support of a Havelock Scripture Reader, to be attached to that portion of the army in India with which this brave and Christian General was chiefly connected?

Several persons are ready to give their generous support to such a measure, and are only waiting till the project is put into tangible and practicable form.

Yours sincerely,  
W. CARUS WILSON.  
Eglington House, Ventnor.

At the Monthly Meeting of the Committee, held on Friday, January 29th, 1858, W. Bramston, Esq., in the Chair, Mr. Blake reported that he had received, through the Rev. Carus Wilson, a letter from a friend of the Society, suggesting the desirability of raising a Fund for the employment of additional Scripture Readers for our Army in India, as a suitable memorial to the late lamented Sir H. Havelock, and promising to obtain subscriptions for this object.

Resolved—on the motion of Colonel Goodwyn, seconded by Lieutenant Blackmore—that a Special Fund be at once opened, to be called "The Havelock Scripture Readers' Fund for our Soldiers in India," and that an appeal be at once made to the Subscribers and Christian Public at large.

Contributions will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, William Bramston, Esq., 9, Bloomsbury-terrace, Paddington; by the Honorary Secretaries, Rev. B. H. Baynes, B.A., and Rev. Dr. Lessac; by the Secretaries, Rev. J. P. Waldo, B.A., and Mr. William A. Blake, at the Offices, 14 and 15, Exeter Hall; Rev. G. Hall, 8, York-place, Edinburgh; and Mr. Forsythe, 54, Upper Sackville-street, Dublin; and by Lieut. Blackmore, 32, Marylebone-road; Major Conran, Frederick-street, Edinburgh; Major Wilson, 9, Sion-hill, Bath; Rev. Carus Wilson, Eglington House, Ventnor; Colonel Goodwyn, 8, Bloomsbury-terrace, Paddington; Rev. F. C. Morton, Sheffield; Captain Love, Ipswich; Rev. A. J. Marshall, Bath; Mr. Mitchell, Book Depot, Cheltenham; Messrs. Nisbet, Hatchard, and Seeley; and the Bankers, Bank of London, 450, West Strand.

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A GENTS WANTED.—Chemists, Booksellers, &c., would find the sale of Plumbe's Arrowroot very advantageous. It had long been highly esteemed and recommended by eminent physicians as the best food for infants and invalids.

A. S. Plumbe, Alie-place, Great Alie-street, London. Retail, 1s. 6d. per lb.

THE  
*Nonconformist.*

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 644.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 1858.

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fectected as victims, rather than offenders. They are victims—victims of a pedantic, self-willed, and obstinate ecclesiasticism.

Now, we submit that a bare statement of the above facts demonstrates the expediency of con-forming our marriage law to the general convictions of the people. Such a palpable discordance between public sentiment and legal regulation ought not to be perpetuated in deference to a much contro-verted interpretation of a Levitical text. Even if it were admitted that these marriages are socially inexpedient, it appears to us that the prohibition of them by legal enactment, unsustained by social sentiment, is far more to be deprecated. In the first place, it exposes the law to contempt, by familiarising with, and reconciling to, an habitual breach of it, the larger, and, by no means the least enlightened proportion of the community. And in the second place, by casting an imputation on domestic virtue where it is undeserved, it takes off the edge of condemnation where it is fitly enough bestowed. It cheapens our estimate of a legal sanction—and it exposes to unnecessary danger the safeguards by which social opinion surrounds the marriage tie. The mischief it does is insidious enough—but it is not the less to be dreaded on that account.

We are not disposed to deny that a legal recognition of marriage with the sister of a former wife may lead to some inconveniences. It may, undoubtedly, have the effect, in some instances, of depriving the families of widowers, during the period that they most need it, of that affectionate care which sisters are most likely to render to sisters' children. But in all such matters we may most safely trust to feminine instincts. In nine cases out of ten, if the dying wife were permitted to select the future step-mother of her little ones, she would prefer her own sister—and we may add that, in an equal proportion of cases, the sister of the departed wife will bring to the task of educating her family a deeper and more spontaneous solicitude than any other woman. Nor is there in this, as in the case of first cousins, whose marriage the law does permit and sanction, any objection founded in nature—any confusion, by intermix-ture of blood relationships. The previous con-nection of the parties is accidental only—and the fraternal bond between the first and second families is more closely knit than it would other-  
wise have been. Certain it is, however, that women in this country, however delicate and refined their sensibilities, do not look upon such alliances with repugnance—and, whatever the law may pronounce them, cannot be induced to treat them as disreputable. As it respects, therefore, the balance of social inconvenience, we put ourselves confidently under the guidance of woman's instincts.

But the case for an alteration of the law has been greatly strengthened by the decision of *Brook v. Brook*. Hundreds—we believe we may say thousands, of couples have entered into the marriage compact under conditions which, to the best of their belief, ensured its legality. Tens of thousands of children have been born whose future rights and interests rest upon the solidity of that belief. Suddenly and unexpectedly all these parents are involved, by a freak of judge-made law, in a state of connubial outlawry, and every one of these myriads of children is declared illegitimate, and loses all hereditary rights. It is a calamity, the full extent of which no man can calculate. It sacrifices interests probably as great in their aggregate amount as would have resulted from the failure of the Bank of England. It sets wide open the door to the repudiation of the marriage tie in every town, and well nigh every village in the country. It almost invites numberless men and women to cast off their mutual obligations; and give free license to illicit propensities. It is perfectly monstrous—and, unless the Legislature steps in to redress the mischief at once, it is impossible to conjecture how far it may spread. We look upon the bare chance of

the rejection of Viscount Bury's bill with absolute dismay.

After all, moreover, the main objection to the legalisation of these marriages is ecclesiastical, far more than religious. Rome rather than Re-  
velation has proscribed them. The Anglican Church, in this, as in many other matters, has followed the Roman. The outcry against a change of the law is chiefly episcopal and clerical—and proceeds much more from concern for the reputed infallibility of the Church, than from deference to divine authority. So it was in the case of divorce. Happily, public opinion is gradually disengaging itself from the trammels of ecclesiasticism. The power of priestly dogmas is waning. Sacerdotalism, like Brahminism, gained much of the power it once enjoyed by prescribing arbitrary regulations in social and domestic life—and, as those regulations one by one break down under the pressure of public opinion, Sacerdotalism, like Brahminism, stands revealed as an imposture. This is the secret of much of the clamour raised against marriage with a deceased wife's sister. Parliament, we would fain hope, will detect the source of the opposition, and treat it with the disregard it deserves.

THE LATE ANTI-CHURCH-RATE DEPUTATION AND "COMMITTEE OF LAYMEN."

It will be recollect that the "Committee of Laymen," at the head of whom were Lord John Manners, Sir John Pakington, and other influential Conservatives, put forth certain strange statistics on the subject of Church-rates, founded on Lord Robert Cecil's return, which was replied to in a carefully-prepared statement read to Lord Palmerston by Dr. Foster on behalf of the Committee of the Religious Liberation Society, on the reception of the Anti-Church-rate deputation on the 27th of January. The committee have since published the following reply, which, with Dr. Foster's rejoinder, we herewith subjoin:

1. The Deputation of the Liberation Society, on the occasion of their interview with the Premier on the 27th of the last month, denied the correctness of a statement made to his lordship in June, 1857, by a deputation from the "Committee of Laymen," "to the effect that the amount derived from Church-rates produces a certain income of about 350,000<sup>l.</sup> a year, the whole of which is necessary to the due maintenance of Divine service," &c. To prove their assertion, the Deputation of the Libera-tion Society stated, in accordance with a parliamentary return presented by Sir Geo. Grey, last session, that 484,000<sup>l.</sup> was the "whole sum received by church-wardens, in that year, for church expenditure;" that, of this amount, 170,000<sup>l.</sup> was "received from sources independent of Church-rates;" leaving the actual sum levied by Church-rates at no more than 314,000<sup>l.</sup>; from which assertion (if true) it must be inferred that the statement of the committee was an exaggeration to the extent of 36,000<sup>l.</sup> Now, it is not disputed that this 314,000<sup>l.</sup> is levied from 9,672 parishes only; there being no fewer than 2,328 parishes (out of a total of 12,000 parishes) from which there were no returns in the parliamentary paper.

The Liberation Society Deputation therefore assume without the slightest grounds for the assumption, and contrary to probability and fact, that these 2,328 parishes collect nothing in the way of Church-rates. If, indeed, the assumption of the deputation were correct, it is to be believed that these parishes would not have been paraded in their statement as non-payers of Church-rates?

2. This sum, viz., 170,000<sup>l.</sup>, is declared by the deputation "to appear by the returns to be a 'permanent' income, and to have increased during the last fifteen years by upwards of 25,000<sup>l.</sup> a year." But this income, so described as "permanent," contains all the voluntary subscriptions for repairing, enlarging, and otherwise improving churches; and these subscriptions amount in the first twenty pages of Sir W. Clay's Return to 4,350<sup>l.</sup>, being nearly half of the whole sum set down in these twenty pages as received from sources independent of Church-rates. Yet these voluntary subscriptions for special objects (comprising so large a portion of the 170,000<sup>l.</sup>), the deputation does not hesitate to describe as "permanent income," and consequently annually available for the purposes to which Church-rates are now applied.\*

But, according to the Liberation deputation, the income

\* For instance, the parish of Trumpington is set down at 420<sup>l.</sup>, with this note:—"In ordinary cases the expenditure is about 20<sup>l.</sup> by rate." Again, St. Hilary is marked at 2,297<sup>l.</sup>, being "subscriptions from vicars, landowners, Church-building Societies, the public, &c."

so derived is not only "permanent," but increasing; and that, too, during the last fifteen years, by "upwards of 25,000/- a year." It appears, however, by the return of Sir George Grey, that this income, which in 1832 was 217,000/-, in 1839 had diminished by 74,000/-, viz., to 143,000/-. It is true that it appears by the returns that it was, in 1854, 170,000/-, but there is not the smallest evidence to show that this increase took place in 1840, the year following 1839, and continued annually uninterrupted up to 1854. The assertion, therefore, that an annual increase of 25,000/- was maintained during these fifteen years (which would have made, in the aggregate, an increase of 375,000/-), is wholly without foundation—a mere fiction of the imagination, heedlessly (it is to be hoped not deliberately) brought forward to influence the opinion of the Prime Minister of England!

(3). The deputation go on to affirm that "the income" derived from Church-rates "is so little to be depended on, that it has undergone a continuous decline from 1827 downwards." To establish this proposition they go back to the return of the year 1827 (of which, be it observed, they incorrectly quote the amount), a return, however, which they ought not to have quoted at all as authority to rely on, because it has at the very commencement a paragraph pointing out that it is "defective," as not "showing whether any, or what, sources of income are included with the Church-rates." On this "defective" return, which they say states the amount of Church-rates at 519,000/- per annum, they proceed to argue, without giving a single reason to show that this sum does not (as it evidently does) include all those other sums "received from sources independent of Church-rates," that, because in 1827 Church-rates were 519,000/-, and that in 1854 they were, without these other "independent sources," only 314,000/-, therefore that there has been a falling off in the amount of the rates 205,000/- in twenty-seven years. So that, in making out their case, they have, in these points, assumed everything in their favour and denied everything against them, and this, apparently, without taking the trouble to ascertain whether their assumptions, or their denials, rest on any substantial grounds. And such is the character of the whole document.

It may, on the other hand, be fearlessly asserted that not one of the averments made by the "Committee of Laymen" has been overthrown or shaken by the statement read to the Premier by Dr. Foster, on behalf of the Liberation Society; to all those averments the committee adhere, resting as they do upon a fair and truthful representation of the contents of parliamentary returns.

The object, indeed, of the whole statement read by Dr. Foster evidently is to show that the amount of Church-rates which are now legally collected is so insignificant that it is not worth contending for. To this end the most "erroneous statements" (as has been here shown) have been pressed into the service; and, by a very ingenious process, upwards of half a million per annum in 1827 has been apparently pared down to something less than 75,000/- in 1854.

But whether the actual amount be 5,000/- or 500,000/- the principle at stake is the same. It involves the continued existence in this country of a National Church Establishment. That is the prize for which, now, this people are actually contending, and with which pounds, shillings, and pence, though made the ostensible pretext, have really no concern whatever.

Dr. Foster's reply, addressed to ourselves, is as follows:—

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir.—A word in rejoinder to the Committee of Laymen's "Reply." Whether it really deserves it your readers will judge better than I, who am responsible for the "Statement."

We stated of the Committee that they claimed a certain necessary and unopposed income from Church-rates of about 350,000/- a year; and we questioned, and, as I believe, confuted, the certainty, necessity, and absence of opposition to the raising of anything like this income. As to absence of opposition and necessity for the rate, they give up these points altogether. They have not much to say as to certainty. But they are extremely indignant with an inference which we could hardly help, as it is drawn by themselves from our quotation of the actual returns, that they have exaggerated the amount by 36,000/- a year.

"It is not disputed," they say, "that the amount on the returns (319,000/-) is levied from 9,672 parishes only;" so that the "Statement" assumes, "contrary to probability and fact," that the remaining parishes (which the Reply states at 2,326 in number) raise no rates at all.

Sir, if it was not disputed, it was because, up to the appearance of this "reply," it was never supposed to be asserted. The number of parishes which the Committee originally stated to be included in Lord R. Cecil's return we did dispute: for we said that they had overcounted it "by at least 1,000." But this return says nothing about the amount of the rate, which is obtained from Sir W. Clay's; and it certainly never occurred to us that the Committee of Laymen were ignorant, as I must now in charity suppose them to be, that Sir W. Clay's return includes about 2,000 more parishes than that of Lord R. Cecil. It comprises, I believe, within 1,500 of the whole number of parishes. These 1,500 are mostly *town* parishes; in which refusals are so far common, that the less said about getting a reliable income from them of 36,000/- a year, I would respectfully suggest to the Committee of Laymen, the better. But I repeat, our statement makes no point of it in any way. We only quote their representation correctly—and the fact.

But it seems that we too make mistakes with the returns. For the purpose of magnifying the decline of Church-rates, we have quoted the amount in 1827 from a "defective" return, and have quoted it incorrectly. Well, Sir, whatever our object was, both these charges against us are true. The return is defective, and we have quoted it incorrectly. To make quite a clean breast of it, I will further admit, for myself, that I took some pains to do so. The return is "defective" by omitting all the parishes in Wales and 482 parishes in England. It supplies this deficiency by

an estimate, which, added to the amount returned, gives a total, not of 519,307/- as stated by me, but of 564,388/- If I had taken this sum, the decline in Church-rates which we are charged with attempting to magnify must have been stated as 250,000/- instead of 219,000/- But I have always understood that the most proper and authentic way to use a return is to deal with it for what it is—a return and not an estimate: and inasmuch as the returns of 1827 are certainly, and those of 1839 probably, "defective," in precisely the same way, and apparently to a very similar extent with that of 1827, I certainly thought that their comparison gave us, if anything, an unusually fair means of judging by what amount the rate had fallen during the interval. If the Committee prefer estimates to returns, they can take their additional 36,000/- in 1854, and give us our additional 50,000/- in 1827. We have no objection, I can assure them.

Oh! but the returns of 1827 include money received from other sources as well as Church-rates. The committee must pardon me. They were not intended to do so: and if they do, which there is nothing to show, it is only to the extent of an unauthorised and occasional intrusion. I have the right to believe that the possibility made so much of by the Committee of Laymen, does not at all affect the argument, inasmuch as we have adopted the figures, not from the actual return, which the committee say we "ought not to have quoted at all as an authority to rely on," but from a copy of it incorporated with a later return, compiled for the use of the House of Commons, in which it is accepted as accurate so far as it goes, and the deficiency supplemented by the use of the estimate to which I have referred.

The next charge is, our (alleged) "assertion that an annual increase of 25,000/- was maintained during the fifteen years" between 1839 and 1854 in the income from "other sources," which (it is observed) "would have made in the aggregate an income of 375,000/-" I agree with the "Reply," that this assertion is "wholly without foundation"—"a mere fiction of the imagination." Of the truth of the solemn reproof, that it is "heedlessly (it is to be hoped not deliberately) brought forward to influence the opinion of the Prime Minister of England," I must acknowledge that they are the best judges, for the assertion in question is theirs, if it is anybody's. Our statement was distinct—that the final amount was 170,195/- In proof of its permanence, we added, that it had not only existed, but that it was now 25,000/- larger than it was fifteen years ago. Our words were, "According to the latest returns (1854) . . . the sum of 170,195/- was received from sources independent of Church-rates, and appears by the returns to be a permanent income, and to have increased during the last fifteen years by upwards of 25,000/- a year." We were obliged to make brevity a fundamental point in our statement, and under this condition I really do not know what plainer form of words could have been devised.—To the argument that the income could not possibly be permanent, inasmuch as it was largely derived from voluntary subscriptions, I have no reply to offer that will carry conviction to the Committee of Laymen.—To their observation that these subscriptions were raised for other purposes (enlarging and otherwise improving churches), there is the obvious rejoinder that we credit nothing against income on this head which is not allowed again in the 245,000/- of expenditure. The only fault we find with this total is the large extent to which, on the face of the return, it also includes the incidentals which the Reply makes no attempt to justify.

Sir, time is valuable; and I hope that in future mine will be required by gentlemen who are accustomed to parliamentary papers, can understand a plain sentence of English when they read it, and will take the trouble to correct, what they do correct, correctly.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,  
CHARLES JAMES FOSTER.

2, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet-street,  
March 1, 1858.

#### ABUSE OF CAPITATION GRANTS FOR EDUCATION.

We have received the following letter on this subject from the Rev. H. More, of Lowestoft, and would call special attention to the facts stated, and to the just conclusions drawn from them by our correspondent. Though, unhappily, the case mentioned is by no means isolated, it involves so important a principle that we doubt not it will excite attention when the Educational Vote comes on for consideration. No wonder that the Committee of Council this year require 100,000/- beyond last year's vote. In fact, we see no limit to this shameful expenditure, which enables the clerical and other managers of national schools "to apply monies derived from the public taxes in paying children for attendance, and bribing them away from schools which cost the public nothing."

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR.—I beg permission to call attention to a new feature in the application, or mis-application, of capitation grants to schools under inspection.

The managers of an endowed school in this town, conducted as a national school, and drawing largely upon the funds at the disposal of the Committee of Council, having by public advertisement held out the inducement of a gratuity of 4s. yearly, "offered by way of encouragement by the Committee of Council on Education," for every boy attending this school the prescribed number of days, and the device having been considerably successful in drawing away children (whose parents removed them on the faith of receiving the "offered" annual 4s.) from a voluntary school, I wrote to the Committee of Council to know if this was a legitimate and allowable use to make of the funds they supplied, and whether if other schools applied for capitation grants with a view to making similar use thereof the application would be granted.

In reply the secretary informed me that "so long as the conditions laid down in the minutes are fulfilled, their lordships leave it to the discretion of the managers of the school to which such grants are made to determine in what manner the income of the school shall be expended."

It follows, therefore, that the clerical or other managers of national schools, &c., where, as in the present instance, they are abundantly supplied with funds from endowments, committee of council grants, and other sources, are at full liberty to apply monies derived from the public taxes in *paying* children for attendance, and bribing them away from schools which cost the public nothing.

I do not know whether the House of Commons ever contemplated such an abuse of the Educational Grants, or whether it would endorse the permission conceded by the above dictum of the Committee of Council, but I trust Mr. Huddifield, or some other friend of voluntary education in Parliament, will take an opportunity of interpellating Mr. Cowper's successor on the subject, and thus drawing the attention of the house thereto.

It is obvious to remark that if such a gross misappropriation and waste of public moneys is to be tolerated, and the example widely followed, as it is likely to be, the annual parliamentary vote for education may be soon and easily doubled or trebled without increasing the amount or improving the quality of education, or securing any other result than making it increasingly difficult for voluntary schools to maintain their ground, and putting additional means into the hands of the clergy for sectarian and proselytising purposes.

I am, Sir, yours sincerely,

HENRY MORE.

Lowestoft, Feb. 26.

ANTI-CHURCH-RATE MEETING AT SYDENHAM.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of Sydenham was, on Thursday evening, held in the large room of the Greyhound Inn, for the purpose of adopting a petition to Parliament, praying for the immediate and unconditional abolition of Church-rates. The room was well filled by a respectable audience, which repeatedly manifested feelings adverse to the impost under discussion. On the motion of George Offor, jun., Esq., Joseph Cockerell, Esq., was unanimously called to the chair, and briefly opened the proceedings; after which letters sympathising with the object of the meeting and apologising for unavoidable absence were read from Sir W. Clay, Bart., Sir Joseph Paxton, M.P., C. W. Martin, Esq., M.P., J. Whatman, Esq., M.P., and the Rev. Dr. Gordon. Edward Miall, Esq., in moving the first resolution, congratulated the meeting on the successful issue of the recent local contest, and recapitulated the circumstances which had conducted to that desirable result. He believed that the majority of fifty-three upon the late division on Sir John Trelawny's bill would, at the next trial of strength in Parliament, be increased to seventy, and hoped that the real, earnest, downright sincerity of those who objected to pay for spiritual food of which they conscientiously declined to partake, would be so unequivocally displayed that the local victories which had been obtained would be followed by the passing of the bill. Mr. Miall concluded by moving the following resolution:—

That this meeting regards with great satisfaction the issue of the recent Church-rate contest in this parish, and indulges the hope that a willingness on the part of the inhabitants to maintain the worship of God by means of voluntary offerings will prevent the recurrence of so undesirable an incident.

George Offor, jun., Esq., briefly seconded the resolution, which was unanimously carried. Dr. Foster at considerable length, quoted statistics illustrative of the progress of the voluntary principle during the last fifty years, and lucidly expounded the law of Church-rates, for the purpose of meeting a common objection to their abolition, viz., that purchases of property were made subject, with the knowledge of the purchaser, to this impost. This he denied, and referred to legal proceedings, demonstrating that Church-rates are a burden, not upon property, but on person. He moved the second resolution as follows:—

That, believing that the Church-rate system should be abolished by the Legislature, this meeting rejoices at the carrying, and by an increased majority, of the second reading of Sir John Trelawny's bill, the complete success of which it will heartily promote.

The motion, seconded by Henry Mason, Esq., was carried unanimously. On the motion of J. C. Williams, Esq., seconded by the Rev. T. C. Hine, a petition to the House of Commons in favour of Sir John Trelawny's bill, was adopted and ordered to be forwarded to Mr. Martin, M.P., for presentation. The petition was numerously signed at the close of the proceedings, which were terminated at a late hour by a vote of thanks to the chairman.

CARDINAL WISEMAN, in a pastoral letter, announces the appointment of a jubilee by the Pope. The Cardinal refers in feeling terms to the tragical events which have taken place in India—especially to the massacre of Catholic priests. He denounces the attempts to promote Protestant Missions in India by legislative aid. In allusion to the recent attack on the Emperor, he strongly reprobates what he designates "the murderous attempts and reckless conspiracies of the foes to all social order and religious principles." The letter contains no other political allusions.

#### Religious Intelligence.

##### YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

The thirteenth annual meeting of the members and friends of this association was held on Tuesday evening, the 23rd inst., at Exeter Hall, the Earl of Shaftesbury presiding. The attendance was very large. On the platform were Mr. R. C. L. Bevan, Mr. G. Hitchcock, Mr. E. Corderoy, Mr. J. and Mr. W. Greatorex, Mr. W. Morley, the Rev. J. B. Owen, the Rev. S. Martin, the Rev. J. S. Jenkinson, the Rev. T. E. James, Dr. Gladstone, &c.

The report, which was read by the Secretary, Mr. Shipton, stated that the number of young men admitted into the association during the past year was 100. Meetings for conversation and devotion had been held throughout the year; and two special ser-

mons to young men had been preached, one by the Rev. Dr. Weir, and the other by the Rev. W. Brock. Considerable additions had been made to the Library, including a valuable donation recently from Mr. Mudie, of New Oxford-street. Satisfactory reports had been received from branch associations in various parts of the provinces; also from France, Holland, Switzerland, Eastern and Western Prussia, and America, in all which countries the work of the association had made progress. Efforts had been made for the liquidation of the building debt, but they had not been as successful as could be wished. The receipts of the year amounted to 2,610*l.*, the expenditure to 3,045*l.* The total debt of the association was over 1,500*l.*

The CHAIRMAN in opening the proceedings remarked that such associations were peculiarly adapted to the wants and necessities of an overgrown city; opening as they did a refuge for thousands of young men from all parts of the country at the most dangerous period of their lives. He wished to see them multiplied in order that, like mighty garrisons of Christianity, they might serve alike for defence and attack against the enemy of the soul. They might depend upon it that they were now approaching times of singular intricacy and difficulty; times when every nerve would be tried, when every resource that could give strength, moral and physical strength, would be called for, and when everything that was in man would be tested, perhaps primarily within these four seas. (Hear, hear.) There was no preparation for the evil day more likely to prove effectual than that which was provided by an association like this. There was no preparation so sound as the bringing under the influence of the gospel the thousands and tens of thousands of the youth of the country. Let them then all endeavour to multiply institutions which conduced to the safety and welfare of the country as well as the spiritual happiness of the present and of future generations. (Cheers.)

The Rev. J. B. OWEN moved a resolution expressing gratitude to God for the success of the association and the extension of similar agencies, and regret that in the multiplication of places of amusement of a doubtful character and tendency, ensnaring young men into an unwise expenditure, and bringing them into undesirable companionships, in the wide diffusion of a light and often irreligious literature, and in the general tendency to extravagance and speculation, young men were at this moment exposed to as great dangers, and as much demanded the solicitude, prayers, and efforts of the Christian Church, as at any former period. The rev. gentleman dwelt at length on the beneficial tendency of the association, observing, in illustration of this, that there were eighty branches, comprising 80,000 members, whose influence probably extended to at least 40,000 persons.

The Rev. S. MARTIN seconded the resolution. With reference to the dangers by which young men are surrounded, he introduced a quotation from Shakespeare:—

"How oft the sight of means to do ill deeds  
Makes ill deeds done."

This was especially the case in London. Easy credit he considered a great evil to young men, whose real wants were necessarily few; and he entreated any tradesmen who were present, in the name of his Saviour, not to give credit to young men. Young men might think him harsh in giving that advice; but they would not do so if they had seen all he had seen, and read all he had read, of the ruinous consequences of the system—supper-rooms, dining-rooms, tailors, jewellers, and man-hosiers' shops were also temptations to gluttony and extravagance. He need not refer to theatres, billiard-rooms, and casinos, which were an inclined plane down which young men slid most rapidly to destruction. These dangers, however, existed, and could not be entirely removed. He had not much hope that tradesmen would cease to give credit to young men; nor had he much faith in legislative interference for the closing of places where intoxicating liquors were sold. In reference to gambling, many betting-houses, especially those visited by boys of fourteen, fifteen, and sixteen, had been closed; but the Government could not do much in this matter. His faith was chiefly in placing within sight of our young men the means to do good deeds, and thereby preventing ill deeds being done. Alluding to the evils of gambling, particularly in connexion with horse-racing, he referred incidentally to the "Derby-day," of the observance of which by the House of Commons he expressed his strong disapproval. This reminded him, he said, that there was a Derby day at present—(laughter)—but in that Derby day there was very little prospect of great risk being run, of much daring, or of much speculation.

The Rev. FRANCIS WEST moved the third resolution:—

That this meeting, therefore, recognise the importance of the mission undertaken by the Young Men's Christian Association, and earnestly commanding it the support of the Christian public, pledges itself to renewed exertions to sustain the funds, and to advance the interests of the society.

In the course of his remarks, noting the duty of the association, he said:—

You will learn to take care to deal out justice to all other nations, and to take care that you never obey the dictates of any. (Tremendous cheering.)

Mr. R. BEVAN objected to the introduction of political topics. ("No, no." "Go on.")

Rev. F. WEST: If I have violated good taste, I will apologise for it. My heart so thoroughly beats for our Queen and country, that I was not conscious of it. (Cheers.)

W. H. TARLTON, Esq., in seconding the resolution, said that the Christian young men of London might be compared to that small creature which in the ocean destroyed the sea-weed which would otherwise

grow into vast forests, to the impediment of navigation. The Christian young men in the same way were living instruments for destroying the evil of the metropolis.

Rev. W. BROCK, in supporting the resolution, said he held in his hand the last letter that General Havelock ever wrote. It was beautiful for its simplicity as an expression of his faith in Christ about the future. But he wrought himself up to that position from—what did they think? The first thing that came in his history was a reference that thousands had to make—a reference to a pious mother. (Applause.) If ever he reached heaven he should have to thank his mother for having done that which had set him going towards heaven. Well, that so far was blessed, and he went on and on. But the thing that he wished to mention was, that when Havelock was a schoolboy at the Charterhouse—he had reference to it in a letter as late as 1853, in which, speaking of letters he had received from one of his old school-fellows, mentioning the death of another school-fellow, he said he remembered he was the one who crept up into their sleeping-rooms at night to read a sermon to them. If the young men before him wanted to die in the reputation that Havelock had, let them take care to begin as he began.

A vote of thanks to the noble chairman was moved by ROBERT BEVAN, Esq., and seconded by EDWARD CORDEROY, Esq., and carried with acclamation.

Lord SHAFESBURY said, there was no one of all the institutions in which he had been engaged upon which he looked with more hope, and for which he prayed more earnestly, and in which he had greater certainty that the welfare of the kingdom was wound up in its diffusion and support, than those institutions which were for the combination of Christian young men engaged in arts, in science, and in commerce. He hoped and trusted that from this country might go forth a sound into all other countries that did not now enjoy the liberty that we enjoyed, and that the young men would set an example that must be imitated, despite all resistance, by every nation on the face of the globe.

The benediction was pronounced, and the meeting then separated.

ENGLISH CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL-BUILDING SOCIETY.—The quarterly meeting of the general committee of the above society was held in Bristol on the 10th instant. The members of the committee, together with some of the pastors and deacons of Congregational churches in Bristol, met for the despatch of business in the vestry of Brunswick Chapel, at 10 a.m., and continued in session till 3 p.m. The committee examined the financial position of the society; reviewed grants already made; voted aid to additional cases; adopted several measures to increase the efficiency of the society; and agreed to hold a general conference next June, in a central provincial town, at the close of the fifth year of the operations of the society, to review the work done, and take steps to secure its permanent efficiency. A public meeting was held in Highbury Chapel, in the evening. The chair was taken by W. D. Wills, Esq., who warmly advocated the principles of the society, and commended it to the generous support of the churches in Bristol and elsewhere. The Rev. J. C. Gallaway, A.M., of London, gave an historical sketch of the rise and progress of the institution; explained the principles on which it acted; and stated the general results since its formation in March, 1853. The society, he stated, aided chapel-extension by practical guidance and by grants and loans. It advised before the commencement of the building, and endeavoured to put an end to the old begging system, by superseding its necessity. The society had now voted 20,000*l.*, in aid of seventy-four chapels, the aggregate accommodation in which amounted to 40,000 sittings. Of the above number, forty chapels have been undertaken to gather additional congregations; and the remainder are large and attractive buildings, in the place of small inconvenient, and hidden ones. The Rev. W. H. Dyer, of Bath, spoke on the great importance of suitable chapel-extension, and condemned the selfishness which sometimes interfered with a work so eminently philanthropic. T. R. Plint, Esq., of Leeds, expressed his strong attachment to the society, and warmly advocated erections of real taste and excellence, as expressions of gratitude to Him in whose name and for whose honour they are built. The Rev. T. Aveling, of London, stated several facts illustrative of the very useful working of the society, and its peculiar adaptations to these times. The Rev. J. B. Paton, A.M., of Sheffield, dwelt upon the need of earnest spiritual life, to give real efficiency to all human endeavours to promote the divine glory. The following resolution was then moved by the Rev. J. Burder, A.M., of Bristol, and seconded by the Rev. E. J. Hartland, of Brunswick Chapel, to the effect, that the meeting, having heard a full statement of the principles, operations, and objects of the English Congregational Chapel-building Society, expresses its cordial approval of that institution, and earnestly commends it to the prayerful and zealous support of the churches throughout the country, and those in Bristol in particular. It was then moved by the Rev. David Thomas, of Highbury Chapel, and seconded by the Rev. J. Harrison, of Manchester,—"That a corresponding committee be formed in Bristol, in connexion with the English Congregational Chapel-building Society, and that the following gentlemen constitute such committee: the Rev. Messrs. D. Thomas, E. J. Hartland, and G. Wood; and Messrs. Foster, W. D. Wills, and A. Salt." The Rev. J. C. Gallaway, A.M., then moved, and the Rev. T. Aveling seconded, a vote of thanks to the chairman. The meeting closed with prayer.

REFORMATORY AND REFUGEE UNION.—The second annual meeting of this association was held on Wednesday afternoon, at Willis's Rooms. The chair was taken at the commencement by Lord Ebury, in the absence of the Earl of Shaftesbury, and subsequently by the latter noble earl, after he had moved the first resolution. Among those present were Lord Ingestre, Mr. S. Whitbread, M.P., Mr. R. Hanbury, M.P., Mr. Latouche, Mr. Baker, Mr. Wright, Mr. A. D. Chapman, Mr. Stephen Cave, the Hon. and Rev. G. Yorke, the Rev. Canon Champneys, &c. Mr. Hanbury, hon. secretary, stated that letters of apology for absence had been received from the Bishops of London, Ripon, Carlisle, and Gloucester; the Earl of Harrowby, the Lord Mayor, Mr. Baxter, M.P., Dr. Guthrie, and Mr. Alexander Thompson. Mr. Hanbury then read the report.

It commenced by referring to two acts of last session on the subject of reformation, the Industrial Schools Act and the Reformatory Schools Act. The former, which empowered justices of the peace to commit vagrant children to certified feeding schools, with power to charge the parents with a weekly sum towards their maintenance, received the warm support of the committee; but it had one great defect, that of throwing the responsibility of obtaining the payments of the parents on the managers of the schools instead of on the guardians of the poor, or some other public officers. At present no schools had been certified under the act, but efforts would be made to bring the act into practical operation during the ensuing year. The committee hoped that the Reformatory Schools Act, as modified in its passage through Parliament, would be found on the whole a salutary measure. Its objects were, in the first place, to enable the justices of a county, or council of a borough, to vote sums of money out of the rates for building or enlarging reformatory schools, to be certified under the Youthful Offenders Act (1854); and in the second place, to enable the same authority to grant periodical payments towards the maintenance of children in such reformatories. The managers of refuges and reformatories having found much difficulty in gaining information as to the conditions on which they could obtain aid from the Government under the minutes of the Committee of Council on Education, the committee of the association had circulated the official documents, and furnished explanations and information, which had been found of material use, and applications for aid had been made in many cases, and favourably answered. The committee had continued their efforts to provide well-trained masters and mistresses for reformatories. There was great difficulty in finding suitable persons, and the success of the institutions and the permanent well-being of the inmates depended in a great measure on the choice made. A register was kept at the office, and several schools had been already supplied with masters and mistresses. The police magistrates of London having no means of knowing whether there were vacancies in certified reformatories, when they desired to sentence a child to detention under the Youthful Offenders Act, the committee had endeavoured to supply this want, and during the last two months they had obtained admission into reformatories for seventeen boys and two girls, who but for their exertions might have been sent back to the streets on their discharge from prison. One of the most important means by which juvenile criminals might be provided for, was emigration to the colonies. The committee had, therefore, applied some part of the residue of the funds collected in 1856 for the benefit of the metropolitan institutions, in providing a passage for twenty-two men and boys, selected from refuges and reformatories, as emigrants to Canada. Five others had been sent out through the liberality of a member of the committee, who had given them a free passage to America and Australia; and the same gentleman had also found berths for eight boys in merchant ships. Agencies in furtherance of this object had been established in Canada and Australia, the agency in the former including the Bishop of Quebec. It was proposed to establish a public laundry for the reception of girls at the age of fifteen and upwards, in order to afford them protection and employment and to train them for future service; and 25*l.* had been contributed towards this object. Under the head "Penitentiaries" the report said:—"Public attention seemed now to be fully alive to the importance of lending a helping hand to unhappy fallen females, and the committee, feeling that no society was likely to be more useful in assisting the efforts of those who have taken up the 'social evil,' had immediately offered their hearty co-operation; and they also proposed to open a special fund for the purpose of assisting such asylums, penitentiaries, and smaller homes as appeared on careful inspection to be deserving of such encouragement."

The chairman said the reason why more reformatory institutions had not been established in Middlesex was that there was one which would be capable of holding 800 criminal children in course of erection, and which would be paid for out of the county rates, and the Middlesex magistrates were in the meantime availing themselves of the reformatories which existed in other parts of the country. The Earl of Shaftesbury, the Hon. and Rev. G. Yorke, and other gentlemen having addressed the meeting, several sums were subscribed in aid of the special fund on account of the "social evil."

BRIDPORT.—On Tuesday evening, February 16th, a special congregational tea-meeting, in connexion with the Independent church, was held in the Town Hall, to celebrate the first anniversary of the pastorate of the Rev. J. Rogers, and to consider the propriety of building a new and more commodious place of worship. At seven o'clock the hall was filled to overflowing, and numbers went away unable to obtain admittance. The chair being taken, after singing, the Rev. J. Hargrave, of Morecombe Lake, offered prayer, and addresses were then delivered by the Revds. H. W. Stempbridge, Baptist minister of Bridport; J. Miller, M.A., of Dorchester; F. B. Brown, of Wrexham; Dr. M. Brown, of Cheltenham; G. Waterman, M.A., of Beaminster; J. Barnieott, Esq., and the Rev. J. Rogers. The meeting was a most animating one, and on every hand, amongst all denominations in the town, a sincere desire for

so derived is not only "permanent," but increasing; and that, too, during the last fifteen years, by "upwards of 25,000/- a year." It appears, however, by the return of Sir George Grey, that this income, which in 1832 was 217,000/-, in 1839 had diminished by 74,000/-, viz., to 143,000/- It is true that it appears by the returns that it was, in 1854, 170,000/-, but there is not the smallest evidence to show that this increase took place in 1840, the year following 1839, and continued annually uninterruptedly up to 1854. The assertion, therefore, that an annual increase of 25,000/- was maintained during these fifteen years (which would have made, in the aggregate, an increase of 375,000/-), is wholly without foundation—a mere fiction of the imagination, heedlessly (it is to be hoped not deliberately) brought forward to influence the opinion of the Prime Minister of England!

(3). The deputation go on to affirm that "the income" derived from Church-rates "is so little to be depended on, that it has undergone a continuous decline from 1827 downwards." To establish this proposition they go back to the return of the year 1827 (of which, be it observed, they incorrectly quote the amount), a return, however, which they ought not to have quoted at all as authority to rely on, because it has at the very commencement a paragraph pointing out that it is "defective," as not "showing whether any, or what, sources of income are included with the Church-rates." On this "defective" return, which they say states the amount of Church-rates at 519,000/- per annum, they proceed to argue, without giving a single reason to show that this sum does not (as it evidently does) include all those other sums "received from sources independent of Church-rates," that, because in 1827 Church-rates were 519,000/-, and that in 1854 they were, without these other "independent sources," only 314,000/-, therefore that there has been falling off in the amount of the rates 205,000/- in twenty-seven years. So that, in making out their case, they have, in these points, assumed everything in their favour and denied everything against them, and this, apparently, without taking the trouble to ascertain whether their assumptions, or their denials, rest on any substantial grounds. And such is the character of the whole document.

It may, on the other hand, be fearlessly asserted that not one of the averments made by the "Committee of Laymen" has been overthrown or shaken by the statement read to the Premier by Dr. Foster, on behalf of the Liberation Society; to all those averments the committee adhere, resting as they do upon a fair and truthful representation of the contents of parliamentary returns.

The object, indeed, of the whole statement read by Dr. Foster evidently is to show that the amount of Church-rates which are now legally collected is so insignificant that it is not worth contending for. To this end the most "erroneous statements" (as has been here shown) have been pressed into the service; and, by a very ingenious process, upwards of half a million per annum in 1827 has been apparently pared down to something less than 75,000/- in 1854.

But whether the actual amount be 5,000/- or 500,000/- the principle at stake is the same. It involves the continued existence in this country of a National Church Establishment. That is the prize for which, now, this people are actually contending, and with which pounds, shillings, and pence, though made the ostensible pretext, have really no concern whatever.

Dr. Foster's reply, addressed to ourselves, is as follows:—

*To the Editor of the Nonconformist.*

SIR,—A word in rejoinder to the Committee of Laymen's "Reply." Whether it really deserves it your readers will judge better than I, who am responsible for the "Statement."

We stated of the Committee that they claimed a certain necessary and unopposed income from Church-rates of about 350,000/- a year; and we questioned, and, as I believe, confuted, the certainty, necessity, and absence of opposition to the raising of anything like this income. As to absence of opposition and necessity for the rate, they give up these points altogether. They have not much to say as to certainty. But they are extremely indignant with an inference which we could hardly help, as it is drawn by themselves from our quotation of the actual returns, that they have exaggerated the amount by 36,000/- a year.

"It is not disputed," they say, "that the amount on the returns (319,000/-) is levied from 9,672 parishes only;" so that the "Statement" assumes, "contrary to probability and fact," that the remaining parishes (which the Reply states at 2,326 in number) raise no rates at all.

Sir, if it was not disputed, it was because, up to the appearance of this "reply," it was never supposed to be asserted. The number of parishes which the Committee originally stated to be included in Lord R. Cecil's return we did dispute: for we said that they had overcounted it "by at least 1,000." But this return says nothing about the amount of the rate, which is obtained from Sir W. Clay's; and it certainly never occurred to us that the Committee of Laymen were ignorant, as I must now in charity suppose them to be, that Sir W. Clay's return includes about 2,000 more parishes than that of Lord R. Cecil. It comprises, I believe, within 1,500 of the whole number of parishes. These 1,500 are mostly *town* parishes; in which refusals are so far common, that the less said about getting a reliable income from them of 36,000/- a year, I would respectfully suggest to the Committee of Laymen, the better. But I repeat, our statement makes no point of it in any way. We only quote their representation correctly and the fact.

But it seems that we too make mistakes with the returns. For the purpose of magnifying the decline of Church-rates, we have quoted the amount in 1827 from a "defective" return, and have quoted it incorrectly. Well, Sir, whatever our object was, both these charges against us are true. The return is defective, and we have quoted it incorrectly. To make quite a clean breast of it, I will further admit, for myself, that I took some pains to do so. The return is "defective" by omitting all the parishes in Wales and 482 parishes in England. It supplies this deficiency by

an estimate, which, added to the amount returned, gives a total, not of 519,307/- as stated by me, but of 564,388/- If I had taken this sum, the decline in Church-rates which we are charged with attempting to magnify must have been stated as 250,000/- instead of 219,000/- But I have always understood that the most proper and authentic way to use a return is to deal with it for what it is—a return and not an estimate: and inasmuch as the returns of 1854 are certainly, and those of 1839 and 1859 probably, "defective," in precisely the same way, and apparently to a very similar extent with that of 1827, I certainly thought that their comparison gave us, if anything, an unusually fair means of judging by what amount the rate had fallen during the interval. If the Committee prefer estimates to returns, they can take their additional 36,000/- in 1854, and give us our additional 50,000/- in 1827. We have no objection, I can assure them.

Oh! but the returns of 1827 include money received from other sources as well as Church-rates. The committee must pardon me. They were not intended to do so: and if they do, which there is nothing to show, it is only to the extent of an unauthorised and occasional intrusion. I have the right to believe that the possibility made so much of by the Committee of Laymen does not at all affect the argument, inasmuch as we have adopted the figures, not from the actual return, which the committee say we "ought not to have quoted at all as an authority to rely on," but from a copy of it incorporated with a later return, compiled for the use of the House of Commons, in which it is accepted as accurate so far as it goes, and the deficiency supplemented by the use of the estimate to which I have referred.

The next charge is, our (alleged) "assertion that an annual increase of 25,000/- was maintained during the fifteen years" between 1839 and 1854 in the income from "other sources," which (it is observed) "would have made in the aggregate an income of 375,000/-" I agree with the "Reply," that this assertion is "wholly without foundation," "a mere fiction of the imagination." Of the truth of the solemn reproof, that it is "heedlessly (it is to be hoped not deliberately) brought forward to influence the opinion of the Prime Minister of England," I must acknowledge that they are the best judges, for the assertion in question is theirs, if it is anybody's. Our statement was distinct—that the final amount was 170,195/- In proof of its permanence, we added, that it had not only existed, but that it was now 25,000/- larger than it was fifteen years ago. Our words were, "According to the latest returns (1854) . . . the sum of 170,195/- was received from sources independent of Church-rates, and appears by the returns to be a permanent income, and to have increased during the last fifteen years by upwards of 25,000/- a year." We were obliged to make brevity a fundamental point in our statement, and under this condition I really do not know what plainer form of words could have been devised. To the argument that the income could not possibly be permanent, inasmuch as it was largely derived from voluntary subscriptions, I have no reply to offer that will carry conviction to the Committee of Laymen. To their observation that these subscriptions were raised for other purposes (enlarging and otherwise improving churches), there is the obvious rejoinder that we credit nothing against income on this head which is not allowed again in the 245,000/- of expenditure. The only fault we find with this total is the large extent to which, on the face of the return, it also includes the incidentals, which the Reply makes no attempt to justify.

Sir, time is valuable; and I hope that in future mine will be required by gentlemen who are accustomed to parliamentary papers, can understand a plain sentence of English when they read it, and will take the trouble to correct, what they do correct, correctly.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,  
CHARLES JAMES FOSTER.  
2, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet-street,  
March 1, 1858.

#### ABUSE OF CAPITATION GRANTS FOR EDUCATION.

We have received the following letter on this subject from the Rev. H. More, of Lowestoft, and would call special attention to the facts stated, and to the just conclusions drawn from them by our correspondent. Though, unhappily, the case mentioned is by no means isolated, it involves so important a principle that we doubt not it will excite attention when the Educational Vote comes on for consideration. No wonder that the Committee of Council this year require 100,000/- beyond last year's vote. In fact, we see no limit to this shameful expenditure, which enables the clerical and other managers of national schools "to apply monies derived from the public taxes in paying children for attendance, and bribing them away from schools which cost the public nothing."

*To the Editor of the Nonconformist.*

SIR,—I beg permission to call attention to a new feature in the application, or misapplication, of capitation grants to schools under inspection.

The managers of an endowed school in this town, conducted as a national school, and drawing largely upon the funds at the disposal of the Committee of Council, having by public advertisement held out the inducement of a gratuity of 4s. yearly, "offered by way of encouragement by the Committee of Council on Education," for every boy attending this school the prescribed number of days, and the device having been considerably successful in drawing away children (whose parents removed them on the faith of receiving the "offered" annual 4s.) from a voluntary school, I wrote to the Committee of Council to know if this was a legitimate and allowable use to make of the funds they supplied, and whether if other schools applied for capitation grants with a view to making similar use thereof the application would be granted.

In reply the secretary informed me that "so long as the conditions laid down in the minutes are fulfilled, their lordships leave it to the discretion of the managers of the school to which such grants are made to determine in what manner the income of the school shall be expended."

It follows, therefore, that the clerical or other managers of national schools, &c., where, as in the present instance, they are abundantly supplied with funds from endowments, committee of council grants, and other sources, are at full liberty to apply monies derived from the public taxes in *paying* children for attendance, and bribing them away from schools which cost the public nothing.

I do not know whether the House of Commons ever contemplated such an abuse of the Educational Grants, or whether it would endorse the permission conceded by the above dictum of the Committee of Council, but I trust Mr. Hadfield, or some other friend of voluntary education in Parliament, will take an opportunity of interpellating Mr. Cowper's successor on the subject, and thus drawing the attention of the house thereto.

It is obvious to remark that if such a gross misappropriation and waste of public moneys is to be tolerated, and the example widely followed, as it is likely to be, the annual parliamentary vote for education may be soon and easily doubled or trebled without increasing the amount or improving the quality of education, or securing any other result than making it increasingly difficult for voluntary schools to maintain their ground, and putting additional means into the hands of the clergy for sectarian and proselytising purposes.

I am, Sir, yours sincerely,

HENRY MORE.

Lowestoft, Feb. 26.

ANTI-CHURCH-RATE MEETING AT SYDENHAM.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of Sydenham was, on Thursday evening, held in the large room of the Greyhound Inn, for the purpose of adopting a petition to Parliament, praying for the immediate and unconditional abolition of Church-rates. The room was well filled by a respectable audience, which repeatedly manifested feelings adverse to the impost under discussion. On the motion of George Offor, jun., Esq., Joseph Cockerell, Esq., was unanimously called to the chair, and briefly opened the proceedings; after which letters sympathising with the object of the meeting and apologising for unavoidable absence were read from Sir W. Clay, Bart., Sir Joseph Paxton, M.P., C. W. Martin, Esq., M.P., J. Whatman, Esq., M.P., and the Rev. Dr. Gordon. Edward Miall, Esq., in moving the first resolution, congratulated the meeting on the successful issue of the recent local contest, and recapitulated the circumstances which had conducted to that desirable result. He believed that the majority of fifty-three upon the late division on Sir John Trelawny's bill would, at the next trial of strength in Parliament, be increased to seventy, and hoped that the real, earnest, downright sincerity of those who objected to pay for spiritual food of which they conscientiously declined to partake, would be so unequivocally displayed that the local victories which had been obtained would be followed by the passing of the bill. Mr. Miall concluded by moving the following resolution:—

That this meeting regards with great satisfaction the issue of the recent Church-rate contest in this parish, and indulges the hope that a willingness on the part of the inhabitants to maintain the worship of God by means of voluntary offerings will prevent the recurrence of so undesirable an incident.

George Offor, jun., Esq., briefly seconded the resolution, which was unanimously carried. Dr. Foster at considerable length, quoted statistics illustrative of the progress of the voluntary principle during the last fifty years, and lucidly expounded the law of Church-rates, for the purpose of meeting a common objection to their abolition, viz., that purchases of property were made subject, with the knowledge of the purchaser, to this impost. This he denied, and referred to legal proceedings, demonstrating that Church-rates are a burden, not upon property, but on person. He moved the second resolution as follows:—

That, believing that the Church-rate system should be abolished by the Legislature, this meeting rejoices at the carrying, and by an increased majority, of the second reading of Sir John Trelawny's bill, the complete success of which it will heartily promote.

The motion, seconded by Henry Mason, Esq., was carried unanimously. On the motion of J. C. Williams, Esq., seconded by the Rev. T. C. Hine, a petition to the House of Commons in favour of Sir John Trelawny's bill, was adopted and ordered to be forwarded to Mr. Martin, M.P., for presentation. The petition was numerously signed at the close of the proceedings, which were terminated at a late hour by a vote of thanks to the chairman.

CARDINAL WISEMAN, in a pastoral letter, announces the appointment of a jubilee by the Pope. The Cardinal refers in feeling terms to the tragical events which have taken place in India—especially to the massacre of Catholic priests. He denounces the attempts to promote Protestant Missions in India by legislative aid. In allusion to the recent attack on the Emperor, he strongly reprobates what he designates "the murderous attempts and reckless conspiracies of the foes to all social order and religious principles." The letter contains no other political allusions.

#### Religious Intelligence.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—The thirteenth annual meeting of the members and friends of this association was held on Tuesday evening, the 23rd inst., at Exeter Hall, the Earl of Shaftesbury presiding. The attendance was very large. On the platform were Mr. R. C. L. Bevan, Mr. G. Hitchcock, Mr. E. Corderoy, Mr. J. and Mr. W. Greatorex, Mr. W. Morley, the Rev. J. B. Owen, the Rev. S. Martin, the Rev. J. S. Jenkinson, the Rev. T. E. James, Dr. Gladstone, &c.

The report, which was read by the Secretary, Mr. Shipton, stated that the number of young men admitted into the association during the past year was 100. Meetings for conversation and devotion had been held throughout the year; and two special ser-

mons to young men had been preached, one by the Rev. Dr. Weir, and the other by the Rev. W. Brock. Considerable additions had been made to the Library, including a valuable donation recently from Mr. Mudie, of New Oxford-street. Satisfactory reports had been received from branch associations in various parts of the provinces; also from France, Holland, Switzerland, Eastern and Western Prussia, and America, in all which countries the work of the association had made progress. Efforts had been made for the liquidation of the building debt, but they had not been as successful as could be wished. The receipts of the year amounted to 2,610*l.*, the expenditure to 3,045*l.* The total debt of the association was now 1,500*l.*

The CHAIRMAN in opening the proceedings remarked that such associations were peculiarly adapted to the wants and necessities of an overgrown city; opening as they did a refuge for thousands of young men from all parts of the country at the most dangerous period of their lives. He wished to see them multiplied in order that, like mighty garrisons of Christianity, they might serve alike for defence and attack against the enemy of the soul. They might depend upon it that they were now approaching times of singular intricacy and difficulty; times when every nerve would be tried, when every resource that could give strength, moral and physical strength, would be called for, and when everything that was in man would be tested, perhaps primarily within these four seas. (Hear, hear.) There was no preparation for the evil day more likely to prove effectual than that which was provided by an association like this. There was no preparation so sound as the bringing under the influence of the gospel the thousands and tens of thousands of the youth of the country. Let them then all endeavour to multiply institutions which conduced to the safety and welfare of the country as well as the spiritual happiness of the present and of future generations. (Cheers.)

The Rev. J. B. OWEN moved a resolution expressing gratitude to God for the success of the association and the extension of similar agencies, and regret that in the multiplication of places of amusement of a doubtful character and tendency, ensnaring young men into an unwise expenditure, and bringing them into undesirable companionships, in the wide diffusion of a light and often irreligious literature, and in the general tendency to extravagance and speculation, young men were at this moment exposed to as great dangers, and as much demanded the solicitude, prayers, and efforts of the Christian Church, as at any former period. The rev. gentleman dwelt at length on the beneficial tendency of the association, observing, in illustration of this, that there were eighty branches, comprising 80,000 members, whose influence probably extended to at least 40,000 persons.

The Rev. S. MARTIN seconded the resolution. With reference to the dangers by which young men are surrounded, he introduced a quotation from Shakespeare:—

"How oft the sight of means to do ill deeds  
Makes ill deeds done."

This was especially the case in London. Easy credit he considered a great evil to young men, whose real wants were necessarily few; and he entreated any tradesmen who were present, in the name of his Saviour, not to give credit to young men. Young men might think him harsh in giving that advice; but they would not do so if they had seen all he had seen, and read all he had read, of the ruinous consequences of the system—supper-rooms, dining-rooms, tailors, jewellers, and man-hosiers' shops were also temptations to gluttony and extravagance. He need not refer to theatres, billiard-rooms, and casinos, which were an inclined plane down which young men slid most rapidly to destruction. These dangers, however, existed, and could not be entirely removed. He had not much hope that tradesmen would cease to give credit to young men; nor had he much faith in legislative interference for the closing of places where intoxicating liquors were sold. In reference to gambling, many betting-houses, especially those visited by boys of fourteen, fifteen, and sixteen, had been closed; but the Government could not do much in this matter. His faith was chiefly in placing within sight of our young men the means to do good deeds, and thereby preventing ill deeds being done. Alluding to the evils of gambling, particularly in connexion with horse-racing, he referred incidentally to the "Derby-day," of the observance of which by the House of Commons he expressed his strong disapproval. This reminded him, he said, that there was a Derby day at present—(laughter)—but in that Derby day there was very little prospect of great risk being run, of much daring, or of much speculation.

The Rev. FRANCIS WEST moved the third resolution:—

That this meeting, therefore, recognise the importance of the mission undertaken by the Young Men's Christian Association, and earnestly commanding it the support of the Christian public, pledges itself to renewed exertions to sustain the funds, and to advance the interests of the society.

In the course of his remarks, noting the duty of the association, he said:—

You will learn to take care to deal out justice to all other nations, and to take care that you never obey the dictates of any. (Tremendous cheering.)

Mr. R. BEVAN objected to the introduction of political topics. ("No, no." "Go on.")

Rev. F. WEST: If I have violated good taste, I will apologise for it. My heart so thoroughly beats for our Queen and country, that I was not conscious of it. (Cheers.)

W. H. TAITON, Esq., in seconding the resolution, said that the Christian young men of London might be compared to that small creature which in the ocean destroyed the sea-weed which would otherwise

grow into vast forests, to the impediment of navigation. The Christian young men in the same way were living instruments for destroying the evil of the metropolis.

Rev. W. BROCK, in supporting the resolution, said he held in his hand the last letter that General Havelock ever wrote. It was beautiful for its simplicity as an expression of his faith in Christ about the future. But he wrought himself up to that position from—what did they think? The first thing that came in his history was a reference that thousands had to make—a reference to a pious mother. (Applause.) If ever he reached heaven he should have to thank his mother for having done that which had set him going towards heaven. Well, that so far was blessed, and he went on and on. But the thing that he wished to mention was, that when Havelock was a schoolboy at the Charterhouse—he had reference to it in a letter as late as 1855, in which, speaking of letters he had received from one of his old school-fellows, mentioning the death of another school-fellow, he said he remembered he was the one who crept up into their sleeping-rooms at night to read a sermon to them. If the young men before him wanted to die in the reputation that Havelock had, let them take care to begin as he began.

A vote of thanks to the noble chairman was moved by ROBERT BEVAN, Esq., and seconded by EDWARD CORDEROY, Esq., and carried with acclamation.

Lord SHAFTESBURY said, there was no one of all the institutions in which he had been engaged upon which he looked with more hope, and for which he prayed more earnestly, and in which he had greater certainty that the welfare of the kingdom was wound up in its diffusion and support, than those institutions which were for the combination of Christian young men engaged in arts, in science, and in commerce. He hoped and trusted that from this country might go forth a sound into all other countries that did not now enjoy the liberty that we enjoyed, and that the young men would set an example that must be imitated, despite all resistance, by every nation on the face of the globe.

The benediction was pronounced, and the meeting then separated.

ENGLISH CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL-BUILDING SOCIETY.—The quarterly meeting of the general committee of the above society was held in Bristol on the 10th instant. The members of the committee, together with some of the pastors and deacons of Congregational churches in Bristol, met for the despatch of business in the vestry of Brunswick Chapel, at 10 a.m., and continued in session till 3 p.m. The committee examined the financial position of the society; reviewed grants already made; voted aid to additional cases; adopted several measures to increase the efficiency of the society; and agreed to hold a general conference next June, in a central provincial town, at the close of the fifth year of the operations of the society, to review the work done, and take steps to secure its permanent efficiency. A public meeting was held in Highbury Chapel, in the evening. The chair was taken by W. D. Wills, Esq., who warmly advocated the principles of the society, and commended it to the generous support of the churches in Bristol and elsewhere. The Rev. J. C. Gallaway, A.M., of London, gave an historical sketch of the rise and progress of the institution; explained the principles on which it acted; and stated the general results since its formation in March, 1853. The society, he stated, aided chapel-extension by practical guidance and by grants and loans. It advised before the commencement of the building, and endeavoured to put an end to the old begging system, by superseding its necessity. The society had now voted 20,000*l.*, in aid of seventy-four chapels, the aggregate accommodation in which amounted to 40,000 sittings. Of the above number, forty chapels have been undertaken to gather additional congregations; and the remainder are large and attractive buildings, in the place of small inconvenient, and hidden ones. The Rev. W. H. Dyer, of Bath, spoke on the great importance of suitable chapel-extension, and condemned the selfishness which sometimes interfered with a work so predominantly philanthropic. T. R. Plint, Esq., of Leeds, expressed his strong attachment to the society, and warmly advocated erections of real taste and excellence, as expressions of gratitude to Him in whose name and for whose honour they are built. The Rev. T. Aveling, of London, stated several facts illustrative of the very useful working of the society, and its peculiar adaptations to these times. The Rev. J. B. Paton, A.M., of Sheffield, dwelt upon the need of earnest spiritual life, to give real efficiency to all human endeavours to promote the divine glory. The following resolution was then moved by the Rev. J. Burder, A.M., of Bristol, and seconded by the Rev. E. J. Hartland, of Brunswick Chapel, to the effect, that the meeting, having heard a full statement of the principles, operations, and objects of the English Congregational Chapel-building Society, expresses its cordial approval of that institution, and earnestly commends it to the prayerful and zealous support of the churches throughout the country, and those in Bristol in particular. It was then moved by the Rev. David Thomas, of Highbury Chapel, and seconded by the Rev. J. Harrison, of Manchester.—"That a corresponding committee be formed in Bristol, in connexion with the English Congregational Chapel-building Society, and that the following gentlemen constitute such committee: the Rev. Messrs. D. Thomas, E. J. Hartland, and G. Wood; and Messrs. Foster, W. D. Wills, and A. Salt." The Rev. J. C. Gallaway, A.M., then moved, and the Rev. T. Aveling seconded, a vote of thanks to the chairman. The meeting closed with prayer.

REFORMATORY AND REFUGE UNION.—The second annual meeting of this association was held on Wednesday afternoon, at Willis's Rooms. The chair was taken at the commencement by Lord Ebury, in the absence of the Earl of Shaftesbury, and subsequently by the latter noble earl, after he had moved the first resolution. Among those present were Lord Ingestre, Mr. S. Whitbread, M.P., Mr. R. Hanbury, M.P., Mr. Latouche, Mr. Baker, Mr. Wright, Mr. A. D. Chapman, Mr. Stephen Cave, the Hon. and Rev. G. Yorke, the Rev. Canon Champneys, &c. Mr. Hanbury, hon. secretary, stated that letters of apology for absence had been received from the Bishops of London, Ripon, Carlisle, and Gloucester; the Earl of Harrowby, the Lord Mayor, Mr. Baxter, M.P., Dr. Guthrie, and Mr. Alexander Thompson. Mr. Hanbury then read the report.

It commenced by referring to two acts of last session on the subject of reformation, the Industrial Schools Act and the Reformatory Schools Act. The former, which empowered justices of the peace to commit vagrant children to certified feeding schools, with power to charge the parents with a weekly sum towards their maintenance, received the warm support of the committee; but it had one great defect, that of throwing the responsibility of obtaining the payments of the parents on the managers of the schools instead of on the guardians of the poor, or some other public officers. At present no schools had been certified under the act, but efforts would be made to bring the act into practical operation during the ensuing year. The committee hoped that the Reformatory Schools Act, as modified in its passage through Parliament, would be found on the whole a salutary measure. Its objects were, in the first place, to enable the justices of a county, or council of a borough, to vote sums of money out of the rates for building or enlarging reformatory schools, to be certified under the Youthful Offenders Act (1854); and in the second place, to enable the same authority to grant periodical payments towards the maintenance of children in such reformatory schools. The managers of refuges and reformatory schools having found much difficulty in gaining information as to the conditions on which they could obtain aid from the Government under the minutes of the Committee of Council on Education, the committee of the association had circulated the official documents, and furnished explanations and information, which had been found of material use, and applications for aid had been made in many cases, and favourably answered. The committee had continued their efforts to provide well-trained masters and mistresses for reformatory schools. There was great difficulty in finding suitable persons, and the success of the institutions and the permanent well-being of the inmates depended in a great measure on the choice made. A register was kept at the office, and several schools had been already supplied with masters and mistresses. The police magistrates of London having no means of knowing whether there were vacancies in certified reformatory schools, when they desired to sentence a child to detention under the Youthful Offenders Act, the committee had endeavoured to supply this want, and during the last two months they had obtained admission into reformatory schools for seventeen boys and two girls, who but for their exertions might have been sent back to the streets on their discharge from prison. One of the most important means by which juvenile criminals might be provided for, was emigration to the colonies. The committee had, therefore, applied some part of the residue of the funds collected in 1856 for the benefit of the metropolitan institutions, in providing a passage for twenty-two men and boys, selected from refuges and reformatory schools, as emigrants to Canada. Five others had been sent out through the liberality of a member of the committee, who had given them a free passage to America and Australia; and the same gentleman had also found berths for eight boys in merchant ships. Agencies in furtherance of this object had been established in Canada and Australia, the agency in the former including the Bishop of Quebec. It was proposed to establish a public laundry for the reception of girls at the age of fifteen and upwards, in order to afford them protection and employment and to train them for future service; and 25*l.* had been contributed towards this object. Under the head "Penitentiaries" the report said: "Public attention seemed now to be fully alive to the importance of lending a helping hand to unhappy fallen females, and the committee, feeling that no society was likely to be more useful in assisting the efforts of those who have taken up the 'social evil,' had immediately offered their hearty co-operation; and they also proposed to open a special fund for the purpose of assisting such asylums, penitentiaries, and smaller homes as appeared on careful inspection to be deserving of such encouragement."

The chairman said the reason why more reformatory institutions had not been established in Middlesex was that there was one which would be capable of holding 800 criminal children in course of erection, and which would be paid for out of the county rates, and the Middlesex magistrates were in the meantime availing themselves of the reformatory schools which existed in other parts of the country. The Earl of Shaftesbury, the Hon. and Rev. G. Yorke, and other gentlemen having addressed the meeting, several sums were subscribed in aid of the special fund on account of the "social evil."

BRIDPORT.—On Tuesday evening, February 16th, a special congregational tea-meeting, in connexion with the Independent church, was held in the Town Hall, to celebrate the first anniversary of the pastorate of the Rev. J. Rogers, and to consider the propriety of building a new and more commodious place of worship. At seven o'clock the hall was filled to overflowing, and numbers went away unable to obtain admittance. The chair being taken, after singing, the Rev. J. Hargrave, of Morecombe Lake, offered prayer, and addresses were then delivered by the Revds. H. W. Stenbridge, Baptist minister of Bridport; J. Miller, M.A., of Dorchester; F. B. Brown, of Wrexham; Dr. M. Brown, of Cheltenham; G. Waterman, M.A., of Beaminster; J. Barnieott, Esq., and the Rev. J. Rogers. The meeting was a most animating one, and on every hand, amongst all denominations in the town, a sincere desire for

the success of the important movement is expressed. The site is a most commanding one in the main street, and it is hoped the contemplated building which is to seat 1,000 persons, will not only meet the requirements of the church and congregation, but will be of such a character as shall command itself to all for utility, style, and economy. Mr. Rogers gave expression of his gratitude to God for having, after a season of severe and protracted illness, so far restored his health as to enable him to enter upon a work of such arduous labour as this will involve, and for the kind Providence which had conducted him not only to a salubrious part of the country, but to an attached and united people. After singing the doxology, the Rev. J. Stevens, Wesleyan minister offered prayer, and the meeting separated.

**LECTURES TO THE WORKING CLASSES.**—A series of Special Religious Services for the People has been conducted at the Town Hall, Boston, on Sunday afternoons, during the winter months, by ministers and gentlemen connected with the various Nonconformist bodies in the town. The attendance has been so encouraging that a series of week-day lectures has been commenced. On Thursday evening last the series was inaugurated, when a lecture on "India and the Hindoo" was delivered by Mr. Harper Twelvetrees. Before the time announced for commencement, the large hall and balcony were densely crowded; and as it was impossible a few minutes afterwards to obtain even standing room, hundreds went away unable to reach even the door of the hall. For more than an hour and a-half the lecturer enchain'd the attention of the vast auditory, who listened to the interesting statements made with evident gratification. At the close, several large coloured illustrations, published by the Working Men's Educational Union, were exhibited and explained, and votes of thanks passed to the lecturer and chairman with acclamation. The second lecture will be delivered by the Rev. J. Shaw, minister of the Congregational Church, on "Warren Hastings: his Life and Trial."

**ST. MICHAEL'S BAPTIST CHAPEL, COVENTRY.**—This beautiful edifice was opened for public worship on Wednesday, the 17th of February. In the morning, the Rev. W. Brock, of London, preached an admirable sermon on the "Proprieties of Christian Worship"; and in the evening, the Rev. John Stoughton, of London, on "Man in Christ." On the following Sunday, the Rev. J. P. Mursell, of Leicester, preached two eloquent sermons, one from the 27th Psalm, verse 4, and the other from 12th Matthew, verse 4. The congregations throughout were large, and the collections amounted to 181L. The Rev. W. T. Rosevear commenced his ministry in the new edifice on Sunday, the 28th ult., under the most favourable auspices. The building is in the decorated style of architecture, built with the Coventry red sandstone. The total cost will amount to about 5,000L, and nearly half this amount has already been raised by the congregation and their friends.

**TIVERTON.**—The Rev. J. H. Bowhay, late of Hertford, has entered upon a new sphere at Tiverton, on Lord's-day, Feb. 21st. The invitation was most cordial, the prospects of success most encouraging.

**MORTLAKE.**—On Thursday last several of the friends connected with the Independent chapel at this place presented to the Rev. J. Jones, on the occasion of his leaving, a magnificent Family Bible, with plates, bound in morocco, with handsome mountings and clasp.

**READING.**—The Rev. T. G. Horton, minister of Castle-street Chapel, has just been delivering a course of four sabbath afternoon lectures to the working classes of this town. The subjects chosen were:—"The Best Master, and how to serve him;" "Home and its Happiness;" "Beware of Dogs;" and "Emigration, or the far country, and how to get there." The lectures were delivered in the New Hall, and were very numerously attended.

**THE REV. EDWARD STALLYBRASS,** formerly missionary in Siberia, has accepted the cordial invitation of the Congregational church at Burnham-market, Norfolk, to become their pastor; and intends to commence his stated labours on the first Sabbath in March.

### Parliamentary Proceedings.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House of Lords met on Friday. The seat on the woolsack, usually occupied by the Lord Chancellor, was taken at five o'clock by Lord Redesdale, the Chairman of the Committee. The Opposition benches were filled by several members of the late Administration, among whom were Earl Granville, the Earl of Clarendon, Lord Cranworth, and the Marquis of Clanricarde. Earl Grey had also crossed the house, and was seated in the place habitually held by the Earl of Ellenborough. The Marquis of Lansdowne sat at the clerk's table. On the Ministerial bench were the Marquis of Salisbury, Lord Colchester, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Earl of Lonsdale, and Lord St. Leonards. Lord Lyndhurst spoke from his accustomed place on the Opposition side. The house was extremely well filled. The cross benches were crowded. There was quite a rush upon the strangers' gallery, and numbers of other spectators thronged the steps of the Throne. A few ladies graced the galleries, but not so many as on similar occasions, no doubt in consequence of previous rumours that the new Prime Minister would not be present.

The Marquis of SALISBURY, who, coming from the Council, wore the Ministerial uniform and his riband

of the Garter, and occupied the centre of the Treasury bench, stated, on behalf of the Government, that the Earl of Derby wished for a further adjournment of the house, in order to have time to prepare his statement of the future policy of the Ministry.

Earl GRANVILLE, who spoke from the Opposition benches, said, on the part of his late colleagues, that they would raise no objection to the adjournment. It was of great importance that the new Government should have time to consult the documents in the respective offices, to consider their policy, and prepare the statement by which they would make known that policy to the country.

Their Lordships then adjourned till Monday.

On Monday accordingly the house re-assembled. Shortly before five o'clock Sir F. Thesiger took his seat on the woolsack for the first time since his appointment as Lord Chancellor. There was again a very crowded attendance of strangers, including Lord Palmerston, and many members of the House of Commons. Mr. Dallas, the American Minister, and a number of ladies occupied the galleries destined for peeresses. The Duke of Cambridge took his seat on one of the cross benches, and Lord Lyndhurst and Lord Campbell occupied places at the clerk's table. Amongst the occupants of the Opposition benches were Earl Grey and Lord Brougham. The Duke of Richmond and the Earl of Cardigan were observable among Lord Derby's supporters, of whom there was a very strong muster.

Lord BROUGHAM asked the Foreign Secretary (the Earl of Malmesbury) why the official returns connected with the suppression of the Cuban Slave Trade were not now made till the end of the session, instead of before Easter. The question being so remote from the business that had drawn so many strangers to the house, excited some laughter in the galleries, which Lord Brougham declared was an indecorous exhibition, and intimated that the galleries would be cleared if it were repeated. The Earl of Malmesbury could not at present give a reply to any question on details connected with the Foreign-office.

#### MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.

The Earl of DERBY then rose to make his statement of the Ministerial policy. Having alluded to the importance of the duties that had devolved on him, he described the incidents preceding and following the resignation of the late Government. The majority of the House of Commons which had caused it was, he admitted, made up of parties not usually found acting together; yet he had not heard any rumours or reports of combinations and coalitions, which were circulated when he last undertook to form a Government. The late Ministry had acted strictly according to constitutional usage in resigning when in a minority, but when called on to form a Ministry to succeed it he, fully estimating the difficulty of the task, had hesitated, respectfully requesting her Majesty to take time to consider whether some other could not be found more fit to undertake the duty. A note from her Majesty on the following day stated that reflection had confirmed her Majesty in the decision; he had then hesitated no longer. The broad distinctions of political parties no longer existed; they were divided into the most various shades of opinion, and such were the niceties of division, he believed there were many members of both Houses of Parliament who would find it difficult to say to what political denomination they belonged. Still he hoped he might obtain for measures of progressive improvement the aid and support of many of those not usually associated with him. The change of a Ministry necessarily occasioned much inconvenience in the course of public business; it required some time for the new Ministers to take up the threads of questions in the different public offices; he had as yet a very imperfect knowledge of many details, but on one subject he could express his satisfaction,—the army, notwithstanding the drain on it for reinforcements to India, was left by the late Government in full strength at home; and he trusted that, by the bravery of the officers and troops in India, that unfortunate conflict was approaching its end. As to the war in China, he had never denied that we had many grounds of complaint against the Chinese, and he rejoiced in the success of the British arms against them. He hoped that success would afford the opportunity of making without delay a safe and honourable peace, and re-establishing that intercourse which alone could render peace of the slightest service. The foreign policy of the Government generally would be directed to the maintenance of friendly relations with all Powers, great and small; it would neither take a tone of haughty intimidation nor of servile submission. If differences should arise the Government would endeavour to arrange them by a frank explanation. If any remains of animosity existed from the war in which this country had been involved with Russia, he trusted that feeling would speedily be replaced by the friendly relations that formerly existed between England and that country. But of all our alliances, if there were one they should more than another seek to maintain it was the alliance with our nearest neighbour—the powerful Empire of France. Everything rendered a good understanding between England and France necessary to the peace of the world, which was endangered by any quarrel or even coolness between them. England could have no wish but for the wealth, the prosperity, and contentment of France, to which, with its great resources, nothing was necessary but the absence of internal political commotion. That was the best Government for France which best suited the temper

and disposition of its people, but it was most important that it should not be subject to perpetual change. It was with this feeling he rejoiced that the Emperor and Empress had escaped the recent peril of assassination—an attempt attended with every circumstance that could aggravate the crime of such a dastardly attack. If the case had been reversed, and a similar attempt had been made on the life of her Majesty, what would have been the feeling of this country? Especially if it became known that it was made by foreigners who had abused the hospitality of a neighbouring country? Under such circumstances the expressions of feeling should not be too nicely scanned, though he did not think the sentiments of some of the addresses of the French colonels represented the general feeling towards this country of the great and noble army of France, because true valour never indulged in bombast. As to the foreign exiles in England, although the law provided penalties for crime committed here, it was impossible to put the law in force without an overt act. It was most unfortunate that, together with the bill introduced by the late Government, a despatch was made public, unaccompanied by any answer or explanation. That despatch would be answered, and he trusted, in a manner that would remove all irritation from the minds of the people of this country.

The course which her Majesty's Government may deem it their duty to pursue must in a great measure depend upon the character of the reply which they may receive to their friendly communication; but I say without hesitation that in the meantime it is their bounden duty—and it is one which they will not shrink from performing faithfully and vigorously—to put in force the existing powers of the law for the purpose of checking by the strong arm of the law these dangerous and alarming conspiracies. (Cheers.) At the present moment—and I speak therefore under some difficulty, because I should be very unwilling in the slightest degree to prejudice the cases which are now pending before the courts of justice—proceedings are being taken against a person named Bernard as a party concerned in the conspiracy which led to the recent attempted assassination of the Emperor of the French. Another person, and I blush to say it, a British subject, is now a fugitive from justice under a similar charge. Against a third person, for the publication of a work containing instigations and incitements to assassination, proceedings are pending before a British court of justice; and no further back than forty-eight hours ago the attention of her Majesty's Government was called to another publication of a similar character, but, as it appears to me, of a still more violent tendency, and that publication also has been without a moment's hesitation placed in the hands of the law officers of the Crown. Should their opinion be that it affords reasonable and legitimate grounds for prosecution, her Majesty's Government will not hesitate for a single moment in putting in force the existing powers of the law. (Hear, hear.)

Under all circumstances, and without distinction, the right of asylum would be maintained inviolable, but it was an intolerable grievance that persons having that protection should by their acts involve or embroil England with its allies. As to the home policy of the Government, he first referred to the India Bill. A majority of the House of Commons had affirmed the proposition to transfer the supreme authority in that empire to the Crown. That decision would very seriously affect the position of the East India Company. It was the intention of the Government to introduce this session a measure that would secure most of the objects of the bill of the late Ministry, and at the same time be free from some objections to which that bill was liable. He thought abstract declarations of policy of little or no use, but the general course of the Government would be that which might naturally be expected from it. It would firmly and strenuously maintain the great institutions of the country, but not hesitate to propose measures of progress and improvement where amendments might be safely made. As to an amendment of the present system of representation, he believed the House of Commons, under the last Reform Bill, had fairly represented the people; he should have been satisfied if on a question so exciting no alteration had been demanded. But for three or four years the demand had not only been made but promised by successive Governments, and occasionally in speeches from the Throne. He would not pledge himself now to introduce any bill of the kind. But as soon as the pressure of Parliamentary business allowed he would carefully consider the defects in the existing system of representation, with an earnest desire that this great question should no longer be trifled with. He hoped next session to be able to introduce a measure which, though it might not please every one, might at least be accepted as a fair and reasonable measure by moderate, impartial, and well-educated men. (Cheers.) In conclusion he said:—

Small as I know my own powers to be, and great as are the difficulties I shall have to encounter, there is One who guides the destinies of all, and who from the efforts of weak and inadequate performers can produce great and signal effects. Trusting to His guidance and to His blessing I will venture to take upon me the charge which has been entrusted to me by my Sovereign, and I fervently hope and trust that, be my administration long or short, when I retire I may retire without a stain upon my public character, and with the consciousness that I have not left England in a worse position than that in which I found her. The noble earl resumed his seat amid loud and prolonged cheering.

Lord GRANVILLE had no objection to make to Lord Derby's statement, but defended the general policy of the late Government, particularly in reference to the Russian, Persian, and Chinese wars.

The Earl of CLARENDON detailed the course taken by the late Government in reference to the Conspiracy Bill and the despatch of Count Walewski, defending

himself from the charge of not having answered it. The difficulty of the Government in acting on the information it had in reference to the exiles was the want of legal evidence. The Conspiracy Bill itself had been totally misrepresented.

A short discussion ensued, in which Lord Campbell and Lord Brougham took part, principally on the different opinions of the efficacy of the existing law.

Lord St. LEONARDS said that the state of his health was his sole reason for not accepting office under the present administration. He also acknowledged the kindness and courtesy which he had experienced from the noble earl at the head of the Government, which would ever remain deeply impressed upon his heart.

Their lordships then adjourned till the 15th of March.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House of Commons met at 4 o'clock on Friday, when there was a numerous attendance of members on both sides, the Conservative members occupying the Ministerial, and the Liberal the Opposition benches. The new Government was represented on the Treasury bench by Sir W. Jolliffe, Mr. G. A. Hamilton, and Mr. Corry. On the front Opposition bench there appeared, soon after the Speaker took the chair, Sir B. Hall, Mr. Hayter, Mr. Lowe, Lord Duncan, and Mr. J. Wilson. Lord Palmerston entered some time later, and was received with cheers from the Opposition members. Sir R. Bethell, the late Attorney-General, on entering the house walked up to the Treasury bench, and was about to take his old seat, seemingly unconscious for the moment of the change that had taken place. Mr. Whiteside, who was seated there, shook hands with the hon. and learned gentleman, who then cast his eyes along the bench, and, discovering his error, passed rapidly to the other side, amid mingled cheers and laughter.

It was observed that Sir J. Graham and Mr. Gladstone took their old places on the second bench below the Ministerial gangway, and that Mr. Bright selected a seat on the Opposition benches corresponding to that which he usually occupied on the other side before the late division. Mr. Cardwell also appeared on the Opposition benches, and Lord J. Russell took his seat on the front bench below the gangway on the same side of the house.

The new writs for members of the Government in that house were then moved.

Sir W. JOLLIFFE, speaking from the Treasury bench, moved that the house at its rising do adjourn until Monday, intimating that it was intended to move the further adjournment of the house from that day until Friday, the 12th of March.

Mr. MILNES gave notice that on the 23rd inst. he would call attention to the vexations to which British subjects are exposed by the late alteration of the passport system in France.

Mr. SPOONER gave notice of his intention very soon after Easter to move for leave to bring in a bill to take away the endowment from Maynooth College. (Ironical cheers.)

Sir R. BETHELL entered at considerable length into a vindication of himself from an accusation made against him in the other house of having misstated the law in the debate of Friday. He declared that he had never dreamt of laying down the proposition that an alien coming to this country was not amenable to our law, and that a greater misapprehension, and consequently misrepresentation of what he had said, it was impossible to conceive. He repeated what he did say upon the occasion, and re-affirmed the position which he then laid down. He accompanied his vindication with some rather severe remarks upon judges who did not confine their declaration of the law to the appropriate place—their own courts—after deliberation. Mr. WARREN attempted to discuss the question, by citing the speech of Sir R. Bethell on Friday, but was stopped on the ground of order. Mr. WHITESIDE maintained that the expositors of the law in another place had stated the law as it actually was. The subject then dropped, and the motion for adjournment was agreed to.

A short discussion arose upon the report on the East India Loan Bill, in the course of which Mr. V. SMITH explained what he had stated in a former debate as to the moral obligation of England in regard to the debt of India. Ultimately the further consideration of the report was postponed until Monday.

On the motion of Lord J. Russell, the committee upon the Oaths Bill was adjourned from the 10th to the 17th of March.

The House adjourned at six o'clock.

On Monday, on the motion of Sir W. JOLLIFFE, new writs were ordered for North Northumberland, in the place of Lord Lovaine, who has accepted the office of Lord of the Admiralty; for the city of Chichester, in the place of Lord H. Lennox, who has accepted the office of Lord of the Treasury; and for the borough of Enniskillen, in the place of Mr. Whiteside, who has accepted the office of her Majesty's Attorney-General for Ireland.

Mr. SLANEY gave notice of his intention to move for an address, praying her Majesty to appoint an unpaid commission to consider and report from time to time on suggestions for ameliorating the condition of the working classes.

Mr. LAURIE gave notice that, on the notice for adjournment on the 12th of March, he should call the attention of the house to the report of the committee on the sanitary state of the army, and more especially as relates to the Foot Guards in London.

Mr. EWART postponed till Tuesday, the 16th of March, the motion of which he had given notice, as

to the expediency of encouraging the settlement of European colonists in India.

Mr. G. A. HAMILTON, on the part of the Government, said it was intended on Friday, the 12th, to go into committee of supply, and to take the navy and army estimates.

On the order for the further consideration of the East India Loan Bill, as amended, Mr. G. A. HAMILTON said, considering the importance of this bill, and that one of the clauses introduced a new principle, her Majesty's Government were of opinion that it should undergo further discussion. Mr. WHITE protested against any grant of money to the incoming Government until the house had been made acquainted with their opinions. ("Hear" and a laugh.) He hoped their political measures would be better than their political morals. The further consideration of the bill was then postponed until Friday, March 12.

Mr. ROEBUCK gave notice that on the 25th of March he should move the resolution of which he had given notice, that "in the opinion of this house the office of Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland ought to be abolished."

The house adjourned, at a quarter to five, to Friday, March 12.

#### THE CHARGE AGAINST MR. BUTT, M.P.

The committee on this alleged breach of privilege case, of which Sir James Graham is chairman, have sat day by day since our last. Mr. Coffey, the petitioner, was examined on Wednesday. He gave evidence that Mr. Butt had distinctly undertaken to obtain from Mr. Vernon Smith a despatch restoring to the Ameer his territories, and it was for these services, as well as his advocacy of the Ameer's claims in Parliament, that he was to receive the money. The witness stated decidedly that the money was to be paid for Mr. Butt's influence with Parliament, the East India Company, and the Government; that Mr. Butt was in daily communication with Mr. Vernon Smith, and that, in promising the restoration of the Ameer's territories, he spoke with the alleged authority of Mr. Vernon Smith; also that Mr. Butt distinctly stated that if it were made worth while he would carry the matter through Parliament. Mr. Butt was to have 3,000/- in bills.

The only evidence taken on Thursday was that of a Mrs. Parr, a trafficker in opera boxes, who entered into a long statement relative to her acquaintance with the respective parties to this charge, and who was prompted in her cross-examination to enter into various details of scandal insinuated against her.

On Friday the chief witnesses examined were Sir James Hogg and Mr. Mangels. Their evidence proved that Mr. Butt busied himself greatly with the Court of Directors and the Board of Control in relation to the affairs of the Ameer; and that Mr. Vernon Smith was inclined to stave off a discussion of the claims of Ali Moorad in the House of Commons by giving the Ameer hopes of a more favourable consideration of his case if he returned to India and behaved well there. This seems to have been the result of Mr. Butt's interference.

On Saturday the Right Hon. Mr. Vernon Smith was examined, and said he had been induced partially to allow the Ameer's claim from the able advocacy of Mr. Butt. Ali Moorad had, no doubt, been guilty of forgery, but he thought he had been unduly punished by the East India Company. On cross-examination, he said he recollects the late Mr. Hume getting the directors to give a large sum of money to Rungo Bapogee, the agent of the Nawab of Surat, to pay his debts here and his expenses out to India; and Mr. Hume, as most people know, was in former times a member of the medical profession. (A laugh.) He had never heard that members of Parliament of the legal profession, such as Sir F. Kelly, Mr. Butt, or any others, who called upon him on this matter, received fees as lawyers. He added (smiling) that he had heard it said, as he supposed the committee had also, that members of Parliament who advocated Indian claims received presents for so doing, but there was no instance of that kind within his own knowledge. If anything had been said of what is called "pressure," from the House of Commons by any gentleman, he should not have seen Mr. Butt.

Mr. Butt being himself called by the committee, solemnly declared that he had not received a farthing from Ali Moorad for advocating his case in Parliament, but the Ameer pressed him very urgently to go out to India with him, which he at last consented to do, on being guaranteed the sum of 10,000/-, and on this account alone had received any money from him. It was difficult to say what induced him to take up the Ameer's case. No doubt he considered it a good opportunity of gaining distinction, but he was actuated also by a strong sympathy with the Ameer, who, he thought, had been greatly injured—perhaps, also, there was the inducement of placing an Indian prince under an obligation. The committee then again adjourned.

Yesterday the inquiry was brought to a close. Mr. Butt was again examined at great length on the subject of his relations with the Ameer Ali Moorad Khan. Several witnesses then gave evidence on his behalf. The committee will meet to-day to consider their decision.

DR. LIVINGSTONE'S AFRICAN EXPEDITION.—The steamship *Pearl* (230 tons, 18 men) has been on Messrs. Steele's slip at Greenock, getting overhauled, and is to proceed to Liverpool, there to ship Dr. Livingstone and his staff for the new expedition. She takes (Saturday) her bonded stores on board at this port, and starts to-day.—*Glasgow Daily Mail*.

#### Foreign and Colonial.

##### FRANCE.

###### TRIAL OF THE CONSPIRATORS.

The trial of Orsini and his colleagues commenced on Thursday morning, before the Court of Assizes of the Seine, M. Delangle presiding. The court was crowded to excess and the anxiety to obtain admission was extreme. No person, however, was admitted after half-past ten on any pretence whatever, and if any one left the court he could not again return. The following description is given of the prisoners:

The prisoners were dressed in black, but this was the only resemblance between them. Of the four, Orsini is certainly the most worthy of remark. He is of middle stature, rather stout, full in face, as in body. Without being what may be called *distingué* his bearing at all events contrasts with that of his companions, and gives him the air of a man of the superior classes. He wore neither beard nor moustache, but only whiskers. If he wore a white neckcloth instead of a black one he would be taken for an advocate or an *avoué*, or an *employé* of the upper ranks.

De Rudio is of lesser stature than Orsini, and his features are as pinched as those of the other are full. With the exception of a thin moustache his face was clean shaven. His face might in other times have been well favoured, but his vagrant and wild existence, and vice, or suffering, or both, have effaced whatever traces of distinction or regularity it might have originally possessed. His long hair fell upon his shoulders, and was parted in the fashion of hairdressers' journeymen or apprentices.

Gomez certainly has the closest resemblance to the menial servant he personated in the conspiracy. In the first coffee-house or first hotel you enter you may meet visages like his by the dozen.

When the prisoners were seated, and the President of the Court was seen to put his first questions to the prisoners (*the interrogatoire*), deep silence succeeded to the buzz which followed their appearance. These questions were purely formal, as to their name, surname, place of birth, profession, &c. After this was gone through the prisoners were removed, and the operation of drawing for the jury took place. In about a quarter of an hour the proceedings were resumed. The jurors' names were called over, and in the list those of M. Dusautoy, the court tailor, whose establishment is in the Rue Lepelletier, and M. Alloury, the well-known writer in the *Journal des Débats*, were remarked. On returning to the bench the prisoners were placed in order different from the first. They were now Gomez, De Rudio, Orsini, and Pierré.

The *acte d'accusation* which is a very lengthy document, and by some means found its way into the *Daily News* of Friday, was then read. It differs very much from an English indictment. It professes to give the entire history of the plot from its first conception to its development. The narrative is said to have been compiled from the confessions of the four prisoners, but how much of it was supplied by each individually does not clearly appear. It opens with a description of the accused; noting minutely that they all "usually resided" in England. It gives a minute narration of the attempt on the Emperor's life; goes back into the antecedents of each of the accused; traces them about; tells of their doings in England and France; and gives a very confused account of the contradictory statements they are said to have made upon examination. The manufacture of the shells, the mode of their transport to Paris, the loading of them, the purchase of the pistols, are all described. The main tissue of this official document is gossip about the attempted assassination and the assassins; the following extract from the opening is a specimen of its more elevated style:—

A new attempt has been made upon the life of the Emperor. His Majesty was not injured, but many victims were struck down round him. No consideration restrains the fury of demagogic passions. The pistol and the poniard no longer suffice for them; these instruments of murder have been succeeded by machines devised and prepared with infernal skill. A band of foreign assassins, coming in the last instance from England, whose generous hospitality is used in furtherance of the most execrable designs, undertook the task of throwing at the Emperor these new instruments of destruction. To attack his sacred person, the assassins did not shrink from devoting to death an august Princess, known to us by the good she does, nor from scattering death at random amid a crowd of spectators. But Providence watched over the country. Providence has preserved the precious life of the Emperor, as also that of the noble companion associated with his dangers; and has permitted that the direct authors of the attempt should be immediately arrested and brought to justice, to answer for a crime directed not less against the greatness and prosperity of France than the life of the Sovereign whom France has chosen.

The whole of the accused are charged with an attack upon the Emperor and "one of the members of the Imperial family." Orsini, Rudio, and Gomez, are charged with the murder of eight persons, and Pierré and Bernard are charged as accomplices.\*

The report of Doctor Tardieu, which states that the number of wounded was 156, and the wounds 511, created a profound sensation. When the *acte d'accusation* was read the list of witnesses was called over. The emaciated appearance of several of those persons, many of whom are still forced to

\* M. Mazzini has addressed a letter to the journals showing that in three particulars regarding the past life of Orsini the act of accusation is false. Thus, Orsini suppressed—he did not commit "excesses" and "robbery with violence" at Ancona, as charged by the act. He was not arrested "at Vienna" in 1855, but at Hermannstadt in Hungary. He was not "suspected of having plotted the death of the Austrian Emperor." "Nota singula questione in the trial he underwent at Mantua bears the slightest reference to it."

use crutches, created a very painful sensation in the court.

The examination of the prisoners then began. Gomez was the first examined. It appears from the indictment that this man had made a full confession of the crime; though in this confession he still persisted, yet what he said was occasionally marked by contradiction and reserve. On coming to the date of the 14th of January he admitted that he was at Orsini's house at 6 p.m., when the final meeting of the conspirators was held; that he had served them with mulled Bordeaux wine; that he had gone out with them, having a bomb and a revolver in his possession which had been given to him by Orsini; but at the same time he declared that he was completely ignorant of what he was to do with the projectile or the weapon, and if he flung the bomb under the Emperor's carriage he only obeyed his master's orders. "How"—exclaimed the President—"how is it possible you could consider such an order one to be obeyed?" Gomez made no reply to the question, though it was repeated twice or thrice. He broke silence only to reply to a question as to the pistol of which he was the bearer. He said he was utterly ignorant whether it was loaded or otherwise, nor did he know who loaded it. The President observed that the innocence to which he laid claim was contradicted by Orsini himself, who in his examination said that Gomez should not be considered as a child, and that he knew very well why he had been brought over to Paris. To that he replied, "M. Orsini may say what he pleases." The President directed his attention to the letter of the 9th of October, spoken of in the examination, in which he declared his entire devotedness to Orsini and his plots in favour of the cause of Italy. Gomez remained silent.

The examination of Rudio then commenced. Rudio had also made a complete confession, and he on this occasion repeated it. While Rudio was in England, notwithstanding his being a professor of languages, he was nearly starving. He was in this position when he met Bernard, to whom he applied for employment, and who promised to procure him some. Pierri, to whom Bernard recommended him, promised him 336 francs and 2s. a week for his wife if he would follow him to Paris, which he did, and when there he told him what he was to do. The matter appeared to him to be too serious, but he found himself committed, and his *amour propre* would not permit him to recede. At the conclusion of his interrogatory the President said to him:—

You belong to an honourable family, but you were expelled from school for your bad conduct, and then from step to step you became an assassin for 336 francs.

These words produced a profound sensation. Orsini was then interrogated:—

The President.—You first made admissions, and then you retracted them. Finally, on the 9th of February you addressed a letter to the Attorney-General in which you protested your innocence.

Orsini.—I have, in fact, an explanation to give. I have long endeavoured to effect the independence of my country, and this idea has occupied my mind without any feeling of hatred against France being mixed up with it. All my hatred was against the Austrians, who since 1815 have never ceased to persecute us and plunder us. I have never ceased to struggle against Austrian domination, and this is the only crime of which I have been guilty. In 1848 I hoped with all Italy that the end of Austrian domination had arrived. A Constituent Assembly having been convoked at Rome I was elected to form part of it. There, seeing a French army landed, we thought it came as a friend, but when we saw it came as an enemy we were painfully astonished. An engagement having placed a certain number of French soldiers in our hands, we took advantage of an armistice which the French general accorded us to restore him his prisoners. This surrender took place at the advanced posts to the cry of "Vive la France! Vive l'Italie!" At a later period every one knows how the engagements, the promises, and the armistice were kept. But in spite of that the political men who then directed affairs at Rome did not cease to show attachment towards France, so persuaded were we all that that war was the act of the Government and not of the nation.

The President.—The freedom allowed to the defence ought to make us tolerate such words; but we will revert to them.

Orsini.—Be it so; but if I be allowed to explain I shall do so with the same moderation as I have hitherto shown. To return to our sentiments towards France, I will say we consider her as so foreign to what passed at Rome, that, in all the conspiracies which have taken place at Rome since the duration of the occupation, measures were always taken and orders given, that in case of executions or in case of success, the French army should be spared. The fall of the Roman Republic becoming an accomplished fact, I have not ceased to labour for the liberation of my country. Instead of placing myself, as Mazzini, in the way of conspiracies which sends out a score or so of armed men in the street, where they are stupidly shot down, I wished at first to pursue my object by legal means. When in England I wrote and spoke to the public in favour of political intervention. I applied to the authorities, and I addressed petitions to the Queen for the same purpose. Seeing that all those steps ended in nothing, the faith I had in my cause urged me to find out the reasons of my failure. I will not now detail the reasons which convinced me that the Emperor Napoleon has an interest diametrically opposed to the independence of Italy. Once convinced that this was the great stumbling-block to our independence, I confess that I resolved to kill him. I make this avowal frankly. I should have preferred executing this design alone, but close access to the Emperor was not easy, and I was therefore obliged to seek associates. After having approved my plans and given their consent and assistance, these men abandoned me to-day, and it is their testimony which has led to my capture by you. I will not show reprisals. I will not recriminate on them. I pardon them, and I offer my head as a sacrifice to my country. Before my

judges I will only occupy myself with one thing—my character. Let me not be judged by the declarations of these men. I do not accuse them. But fear, which is a dangerous counsellor, has forced on them a system of allegations which are not in conformity with the truth. The regard which I have for the guilty sufficiently explains what my conscience prescribes towards an innocent person. Mr. Allsop is pursued as an accomplice. Well, then, I am bound to say that Mr. Allsop has never had any knowledge of this project of assassination. He assisted me in the making of the bombs, in the belief that they were to be employed in an insurrectionary attempt in Italy. As to M. Bernard, the respect I owe to truth does not permit me to affirm that I have not told him that the bombs were to be employed in France, but I cannot still assert that I told him so. I often conversed with him about Italy than about France.

This exposition of his plans was made by the prisoner with the utmost calmness; there was nothing inflated in his tone, and there appeared little or no affectation in his manner. The President thought that Orsini was aiming at a character for generosity which was not consistent with his original examination. He reminded him of his remark, that disposed as he was to be generous, the object of that feeling must be worthy of it, and that his accomplices did not appear to him to deserve any sacrifice on his part. He thought he ought to give explanations, the result of which was that each one should keep for himself the part that belonged to him. Orsini related his first meeting with Pierri, and then with Rudio and Gomez. Being pressed on this point he refused to say more. He merely avowed his participation in the transport of the bombs and the fulminating powder. On arriving at the events of the 14th, his voice, which was before strong and firm, appeared to falter. He avowed the meeting of the accomplices in the Rue Monthabor, and their proceeding to the Rue Lepelletier. He denied it was he who gave the order to throw the bombs. He himself would not have thrown any. The one he was to throw was given by him to another Italian whose name and co-operation he had concealed from his accomplices. Wounded by the first explosion, he had lost his sight, and it was he who, before entering the shop of the apothecary, had let fall the pistol and the grenade picked up at two yards from the shop.

Pierri's examination was rather a laborious task, not only for the reporters, but also for the President, M. Delangle, who was frequently obliged to repeat the same question five or six times before eliciting an answer, or rather, something like an answer. Though Pierri could not deny that he had had in his possession a pistol and a bomb, yet he evidently laboured to take advantage of the circumstance that he had been arrested before the execution of the attempt, and that he did not consequently come within the strict rigour of the law like his accomplices. He maintained that it was merely for his personal defence that he carried the weapon and projectile found on him, and he declared that in England people generally go about armed by way of precaution against garotte robbers.

On Friday the trial was resumed. The first hour was taken up by the examination of witnesses, especially of Mr. Taylor, the English manufacturer, who made the bombs. About twelve, M. Chaix d'Est Ange rose to address the Court. His speech was moderate and not out of taste. Alluding to England, M. Chaix d'Este Ange observed:—

It is in England, it is in a foreign country, that this abominable plot is planned, under the protection of those laws which are opposed to our habits, our maxims, our instincts, but of which laws we ought not to speak, in the first place, because we are imperfectly acquainted with them; and, secondly, because they are the laws of old and free England.

He scouted the idea of such men as Orsini and his accomplices claiming to be regarded as heroes. The chiefs of these men were in power, and every one knew what they did with their country. They were the friends and comrades of those who sowed dismay in Ancona under the government of the Roman Constituent Assembly, and the acts of such men, from whom Italy could not expect independence, were described by Orsini himself as those of robbers and assassins. In conclusion he said, "A man might fall under the dagger of the assassin, but that which would not fall is his reign, his government, his labours, and his dynasty!"

M. Jules Favre, who defended Orsini, rose and addressed the Court in a very able speech. He admitted the act and its heinousness, of which he said:—

History teaches us that Governments perish by the excess of their principles. God, who counts the hours of the Powers of this world, reserves for that Power which his Providence has condemned, catastrophes much more sudden, much more striking, than those of all the criminal machinations that were ever planned by conspirators. This is my firm belief.

Orsini, he said, had asked him to defend him. He had consented, though at the same time he had expressed horror at his crime, though touched by his misfortunes, and compassionating his tears.

I told him that for a cause like his—the independence of his country—I would, like him, shed the last drop of my blood; but I added that in the pursuit of that object he had grievously erred; that that error of mind he must expiate, and that his life would be the expiation for the laws he had violated; that his life was drawing to a close, as a punishment due to the great principle of respect for human life, which he had utterly disregarded. I told him I should attend him before the jury, and assist him at this solemn hour. Behold me now at my post. I am not here to glorify Orsini, nor to justify him, any more than to save him. I wish only to endeavour to cast on his immortal soul some rays of the light of truth—of that truth which I trust will protect his memory against the execration of posterity.

He then proceeded to trace his history, which had

been a life of conspiracy, as well as that of his father before him, with a view to account for his "fatal aberration." Must not an Italian feel his chains? He then drew a graphic picture of the fortunes of his client, and especially his escape from the Austrian dungeon.

When his legal and legitimate efforts appear useless his spirit, which again leads him astray, urges him to the commission of a crime, which at this moment he would wish to efface at the cost of his blood. The independence of Italy and he himself are sacrificed—even to the very name he bears, and which he has sullied by assassination. Doubtless such persistence is deserving of blame. A man must know how to bow to force, and before the Cabinet of Kings who tell you "Your government displeases me; I destroy it." But all that the work of force is destined to encounter on its way is a resistance which will rather allow itself to be crushed than to submit to reason.

He then read the following address, which, he said, the Emperor had allowed him to use:—

To Napoleon III., Emperor of the French.

The depositions which I have made against myself, in the course of the political proceedings which have been instituted on the occasion of the attempt of the 14th Jan., are sufficient to send me to the scaffold, and I shall submit to my fate without asking for pardon, both because I will not humiliate myself before him who has destroyed the reviving liberty of my unhappy country, and because in the situation in which I am now placed, death for me will be a relief.

Being near the close of my career, I wish, however, to make a last effort to assist Italy, whose independence has hitherto made me pass through so many perils, and submit to so many sacrifices. She was the constant object of all my affections, and it is that idea which I wish to set forth in the words which I address to your Majesty.

In order to maintain the balance of power in Europe, it is necessary to render Italy independent, or to loosen the chains by which Austria holds her in bondage. Shall I ask that for her deliverance the blood of Frenchmen shall be shed for the Italians? No; I do not go so far as that. Italy demands that France shall not interfere against her, and that France shall not allow Germany to support Austria in the struggles in which she may perhaps be soon engaged. This is precisely what your Majesty may do, if you are so inclined; on your will therefore depends the welfare or the misfortune of my country, the life or death of a nation to which Europe is in a great measure indebted for her civilisation.

Such is the prayer which from my cell I dare to address to your Majesty, not despairing but that my feeble voice may be heard; I beseech your Majesty to restore to Italy the independence which her children lost in 1849 through the very fault of the French. Let your Majesty call to mind that the Italians, among whom was my father, joyfully shed their blood for Napoleon the Great, wherever he pleased to lead them; that they were faithful to him until his fall; and that, so long as Italy shall not be independent, the tranquillity of Europe and that of your Majesty will only be vain illusions.

May your Majesty not reject the last prayer of a patriot on the steps of the scaffold! May you deliver my country, and the blessings of twenty-five millions of citizens will follow you to posterity.

FELICE ORSINI.

Prison of Mazas, 11th Feb., 1858.

In conclusion he said:—

God, who views the sufferings of this man—his anguish, and the thoughts which have ever agitated his spirit—the ardent passions which have filled his heart—will, perhaps, render to this intelligent and noble soul a pardon which, in their weakness, men will not be able to extend to him.

The speech produced considerable effect. M. Noyent St Lawrens, Pierri's counsel, followed, and was succeeded by MM. Mallinet and Nicolet, Rudio's counsel, who also spoke with much effect. At a late hour the President began to sum up. The jury retired at five o'clock, and were absent two hours and a half. They returned a verdict of Guilty against all the prisoners, but stated that, in their judgment, there were extenuating circumstances in the case of Gomez. Orsini, Rudio, and Pierri were condemned to die the death of Parricides. Gomez was sentenced to hard labour for life. Parricides are conducted to the scaffold with a black veil covering their features, a white shirt placed over their clothes, and their feet naked. The prisoners listened to the sentence with extraordinary composure. In the course of Saturday an appeal on behalf of Orsini, Pierri, and De Rudio, was lodged in the Court of Cassation.

The *Moniteur* announces that General Changarnier and General Bedeau are authorised to return to France.

The Emperor has taken the important step of abolishing the butchers' monopoly, which will cease on the 31st of March.

In its *unofficial* columns the *Moniteur* publishes the report of the committee appointed to collect and publish the writings of Napoleon I.

One senator—one only—has voted against the "Public Safety" Bill. His name deserves to be recorded, although the constitution of 1852 does not allow any record to be made of it, for the information of Frenchmen. This man is General MacMahon, the brave soldier who commanded the assault upon the Malakoff tower.

Three Republican lawyers have been arrested in Paris—Maillard, Vinkin, and Hubbard.

The *Journal d'Indre-et-Loire* says:—"Several arrests, supposed to be political, were effected at Tours on Wednesday last. We know nothing whatever of the circumstances."

In his report on a bill relating to the conscription of 1858, Baron Reille proposes that the levy shall be 100,000 men, in order that "in the event of a war" the army may be easily raised to a strength of 600,000.

Four companies of marines and half a battery of

field-howitzers have left Brest to strengthen the French force in China.

The *Paris Pays*, speaking of our change of Government, says:—

We may be certain that the Government will not abandon the idea of the Conspiracy Bill, and that the great majority which authorised the first reading will back the measures proposed by Lord Derby.

The same journal contains an eulogy of the Belgian Government and Chambers for the unanimity with which the new law on conspiracy, undertaken at the request of the French Government, has terminated.

In the spring, the camp of Chalon is to be occupied by double the number of troops that encamped there last year—50,000.

The château of St. Germain is to be repaired and restored to the state in which it was during the residence there of our James II. A military museum is to be established.

#### BELGIUM.

The Belgian Chamber has under consideration a bill relating to attempts against the lives of foreign sovereigns. M. Teisch, Minister of Justice, endeavoured to establish that the bill proposed was not a special bill, but simply a modification of the penal law of the land. He emphatically stated, "that he had not received from any foreign Power, either verbally or in writing, any request to change the law of the land."

#### PRUSSIA.

The Princess Frederick William has been laid aside with a cold, which obliged her to abstain from sharing in the marriage festivities. The Prince of Prussia met with an accident on the 20th. Returning from the theatre, he slipped, fell, and sprained his ankle. The Prince and Princess Frederick William have published in the *Prussian Moniteur* an address of thanks "to the whole country" for the manifestations of sincere interest in their happiness shown everywhere.

#### AUSTRIA.

When it became known here that Lord Palmerston had quitted office there was a fall of five per cent. in some kinds of stock; but the speculators *à la hausse* have regained courage, and the quotations are now as high as they were four or five days ago. Of the state of public feeling towards England nothing more is to be said than the Austrians loudly express their admiration of the "pluck" of the nation.—*Vienna Letter in the Times*.

#### HOLLAND.

The Cabinet of the Hague is, in consequence of the rejection of the commercial treaty with Belgium, on the brink of dissolution. An Administration of moderate Liberals will replace it.

#### SWEDEN.

A Stockholm letter states that the Chamber of Burgesses has voted, by the small majority of twenty-three to twenty, the Religious Liberty Bill, which emanated from the initiative of the Legislative Committee. This bill, which has been passed by two of the chambers, and rejected by two others, cannot be again brought forward this session.

#### ITALY.

The Conspiracy Bill, introduced by Count Cavour into the Piedmontese Chambers, is not generally acceptable. It is said that King Victor Emmanuel strove hard to dissuade Count Cavour from yielding to the importunities of the French Ambassador. At a recent meeting of the Chambers, Signor Valerio asked whether a note had been sent from the French to the Piedmontese Government after the 14th of January; and whether Count Cavour would produce it. Count Cavour said the question was inopportune; he might state, however, that France had sent notes to England, Switzerland, Belgium, and Piedmont. On a future occasion he would produce the note before a select committee, and discuss with them the propriety of making it public.

There are rumours of another Republican plot. The *Corriere Mercantile* of Genoa of the 23rd says:—"Yesterday three refugees—viz., Advocate Mignona, of Tarento, aged forty-nine; Engineer Carlo, of Cosenza, aged thirty-one; and M. Zambarelli, of Naples, aged twenty-three—were arrested here. Others have received orders to quit the country." The same journal, on the following day, says:—"The alarm continues. All the troops are confined to barracks, and were under arms ready to turn out during a great part of last night. We hear that in the interior of the port the guns were prepared for firing, and the war steamers were all ready to weigh anchor."

It is said that the Englishman, Daniel Hodge, arrested at Genoa, has been found in possession of several papers which incriminate a large number of persons; also a pocket-book, in which he used to write down all those with whom he had held conversation, together with the tenor of it, and his own impressions.

Two more Englishmen, named Jackson and Atkinson, have been arrested at Genoa.

Count Cavour has sent an important despatch to the Sardinian Minister at Naples, claiming the restoration of the *Cagliari*, and the liberation of the persons on board at the time of her seizure, on the ground that she was captured on the high seas, and not in Neapolitan waters. The capture being illegal, all consequences that flow from it must also be illegal. The demand has not been made before because the prohibition of intercourse with

the captain and crew excluded the Sardinian Government from clearing up the facts.

The Neapolitan trials are still suspended. The *Times* correspondent writes:—

On Thursday, the 18th inst., the medical men attached to the prison establishment of Aversa, and appointed by Government to visit Watt, commenced their visits. They have determined on renewing their visits daily for a week, when they will give in their final report, and the fate of our poor countryman will be decided. Meanwhile the trial is suspended, and another month of imprisonment added to the sufferings of those who have been captured in violation of international law, and confined without the shadow of guilt. The latest report of Watt is that he passed a very agitated night, rose and dressed himself several times, expressing a wish to go out, and in the morning professed a total ignorance of what he had done. No one is allowed to see him during the investigations of the medical men. A communication which reflects the highest honour on the Glasgow men has been just received by Mr. Acting-Consul Barber, enclosing a cheque for 20/- from the working-men of that city, to be divided in equal proportions between Watt and Park.

#### TURKEY.

The Turkish soldiery and the Christians in the Herzegovina appear to be engaged in constant conflicts. A similar state of things exists on the Montenegrin frontier, where bloody battles ensue between the Turkish soldiers and the Montenegrins. In a recent battle the Turks have killed 200 Christians, and the Christians 100 Turks. In the meantime the Porte is deliberating about concessions to be made to its Christian subjects.

#### AMERICA.

Advices from New York are to the 17th ult. The Senate had instructed its committee on Foreign relations to inquire into the expediency of abrogating the Reciprocity Treaty with Great Britain. It is proposed to form a new territory out of the recent purchase from Mexico. A resolution had been adopted by the Senate, directing an inquiry into the expediency of establishing a Protectorate over Mexico and Central America.

The special committee of the house on the Lecompton constitution have decided not to send to Kansas for persons and papers, but to rely upon the facts contained in the official documents in the departments for their guidance. The committee was expected to report within a week. The *Times* New York correspondent writes:—

The appointment of the investigating committee was left with the Speaker, who took some days to make up the list, and then announced it with a majority of the friends of the Administration upon it. This gives them the power of preventing an investigation or of having it take a course to suit themselves. While they are arranging the details of the investigation the Minnesota Bill comes up in the Senate. The bill for the admission of Kansas will be moved as an amendment; if moved it can be carried in the Senate; and thus the bill for the admission of Kansas as a State may in the course of two or three weeks be regularly before the house. The adverse majority was so small that it will not be difficult to dispose of it. A change of one vote would have made a tie. The Administration with the patronage at its disposal need not fear for the result if it really wishes to have Kansas admitted as a Slave State.

The house committee on territories were expected shortly to report a bill organising Carson territory, composed of territory lying west of the Valley of Salt Lake.

California news to January 20th states that the Supreme Court had come to the unanimous conclusion that the affirmative vote of the people at the last election legalised the State debt.

There was a rumour of a battle between the United States troops and the saints, but it was not believed. Also a report that five American citizens had been killed by the Mormons.

We learn from Nicaragua that the treaty negotiated with the United States had been ratified; and also that the treaty between Costa Rica and Nicaragua had been rejected by the first named republic. These events would, it was thought, lead to the renewal of hostilities.

From Mexico the last accounts were dated Vera Cruz, the 31st of January. The reactionary party, under Zuloaga, who had assumed the dictatorship on the flight of Comonfort to New Orleans, were still exercising full sway, but numerous opponents were threatening them from the provinces, and a period of total anarchy seemed at hand.

#### CHINA.

##### THE OCCUPATION OF CANTON.

Full details of the capture and occupation of Canton by the Anglo-French force have now been received. It seems that when the attack was made upon Gough Fort no one was there to oppose our entrance; several dead and wounded were lying inside. The fort was blown up.

When the appointed time had come and passed a rocket went up, the men hurried out, and the solid stone buildings stood intact in their loneliness. They never looked so interesting as during the ten minutes which succeeded the rockets. Seated at only 500 yards distance you could just see a small glimmering slow match burning down. Then came a succession of loud, sharp, crackling, shivering explosions, throwing fragments high in the air, and frightening, but not killing, a kite at the moment hovering over Fort Gough. There were at least twenty successive explosions at the larger fort. When the smoke cleared, a thousand years seemed to have passed in a few seconds. The square substantial fortification was a picturesque ruin, such as we see at Carnarvon or Drachenfels.

The Red Fort behind Gough Fort was next blown up, and through the thoughtlessness of the parties engaged, nearly blew up with it a number of their

own men. Meanwhile the French had possession of the five-storied house. The total loss in these operations appears to have been 140 British and thirty French. The officers of the squadron said that the taking of Canton was not for an instant to compare with the Fatahain-creek affair. After all the fortifications had been taken around the city there was a pause. The *Times* correspondent thus describes the situation:—

From Tuesday night until Monday night we remained in position upon the heights and walls, waiting, apparently, that the city, now at our mercy, should come to us with offers of submission and prayers for protection. Nothing of the sort occurs. The imperturbable Chinamen go on just as though nothing had happened. We make an imposing military promenade all round their walls, but only crowds of the lowest classes come out and stare at us. The Mandarin soldiers have been driven from the suburb near the landing-place, but have been succeeded by robbers, who despoil the villagers and resist our officers if they interfere.

The correspondent of the *China Mail*, describing his first entrance into Canton, on Sunday, Jan. 3, through the suburbs above the French Folly, says:—

No Chinese were to be seen. You enter the city by the south-east angle of the wall. The streets were entirely deserted. The town had suffered very much in this quarter; not a house scarcely that had not a hole in the roof, indicative of the entrance of a shot or rocket. No dead Chinese were lying about, which may be accounted for by an order that all bodies fallen in with should be buried; but when the city was first entered the walls were well covered with dead bodies. Next morning proved wet and rainy, but our correspondent strolled round the walls as far as the North Gate, and visited the superb temple, Sam Gine Koong. This temple had evidently been a very wealthy one, but all the images and ornaments were broken. The interior of the city and the streets proved not at all superior to those of other Chinese towns. There were a great number of temples thereabout.

Meanwhile Yeh is described as living much as usual. "He cut off four hundred Chinese heads the other morning, and stuck them up in the city, to show that, in spite of the presence of the barbarians, he was still master over the Chinese." At length a move was made by our troops. Certain intelligence had reached head-quarters of the whereabouts of Yeh, and an attempt to capture him was resolved on. Three columns of troops penetrated the city early in the morning of the 5th of January. No resistance was offered. Peh-kwei, the governor of the city, was the first captured. The pioneers broke in the door of his yamen, the Chinese guards were knocked down or disarmed, and a dash made on a pavilion seen at the end of the courtyard. The following is graphically described by the *Times* correspondent:—

This third pavilion is a hall of audience, rude and dirty, but imposing. There is a fracture in the tiled roof, through which an English rocket had forced its way. There are curtained portières right and left, leading evidently to private apartments. "Halt," "Stand at ease," and the muskets descend upon the stone floor with a ring which makes the old shed echo. At this moment one of the portières is raised, and an old man, dressed in the ordinary blue Chinese dress, but wearing a Mandarin's cap with a red button, appears in the doorway. He has a black moustache, a quick eye, and more intelligence in his face than you usually see in China, and he seems to say, as plainly as gestures can speak, "What can all this disquietude be about?" Every one felt that this could be no other than Peh-kwei. Colonel Holloway put his hand upon his shoulder, led him gently back into his apartment, seated him in a chair, and put a guard round him. The old gentleman was quietly at breakfast when the English marines burst in.

A few moments' delay occurred while a Chinese interpreter was got up, and the governor, seeing he was in no immediate danger, recovered a composure which he had never lost the power of assuming. He was asked for his seals of office and his papers. It was very unfortunate, but he had that morning mislaid his keys. "Tell him," said Colonel Holloway, "not to trouble himself, for I have a master-key; and at a sign a tall pioneer with his axe made his appearance. The Governor took up a napkin, and the lost keys were accidentally found to have been underneath it.

Another detachment, under the command of Captain Parkes, makes a dash on the Treasury in the street of "Benevolence and Love." The Tartar guard easily overpowered, the treasury is entered, and vast stores of valuables, besides fifty-two boxes of dollars, with sixty-eight packets of solid silver ingots, reward the finders. No looting is allowed; coolies are called, and the boxes of treasure are safely removed to head-quarters. "When the last British soldier left the Treasury, the mob poured in like a countless pack of famished wolves. The retiring and self-denying English could hear their yells and shouts as they fought over the fur dresses and other stores that had been left untouched."

Contemporaneously with these operations a French column had advanced upon the head-quarters of the Tartar general. The yamen, easily discernible from the lofty poles surrounding it, was quickly reached and entered, and the Tartar general, hunted from room to room, is finally pulled out of a "filthy closet."

The capture of Yeh alone remained to be effected:—

Mr. Consul Parkes, who was attached as interpreter to Colonel Holloway's party, arrived too late, and was without an escort. While he was deplored his ill-luck, he met with Commodore Elliot, who, fired by Mr. Parkes telling him that he had some information as to Yeh's lurking-place, agreed, upon his own responsibility, to accompany him with 100 blue-jackets. As they got deeper and deeper into the maze of streets some of the officers seemed to think they were doing an imprudent thing. "If the worst comes to the worst," said Captain Key, "we know the direction of the walls by this com-

pass, and can fight our way to them," so on they went. The longest chase must have an end. At last the guides called a halt at the door of a third-rate yamen, which appeared closed and deserted. The doors were forced open, and the blue-jackets were all over the place in a moment. It was evident that they were now on the right scent. The place was full of hastily-packed baggage. Mandarins were running about—yes, *running* about—and at last one came forward and delivered himself up as Yeh. But he was not fat enough. Parkes pushed him aside, and hurrying on, they at last spied a very fat man contemplating the achievement of getting over the wall at the extreme rear of the yamen. Captain Key and Commodore Elliot's coxswain rushed forward. Key took the fat gentleman round the waist, and the coxswain twisted the august tail of the Imperial Commissioner round his fist. There was no mistake now—this was the veritable Yeh. Instinctively the blue-jackets felt it must be Yeh, and they tossed up their hats and gave three rattling cheers.

Yeh is by no means the hero people thought him. He trembled violently when he was taken; he strenuously denied his identity; and it was not till Mr. Parkes had several times had the satisfaction and triumph of assuring his old enemy of his personal safety that he grew composed. As soon, however, as he felt himself safe all his arrogance returned. He posed himself magnificently in his chair. He laughed at the idea of giving up his seals, and also at the idea of his being led away. He would wait there to receive the men Elgin and Gros. They searched all his packages for papers, and found among other things, the original ratifications of the treaties with England, France, and America; they were, as he intimated, too unimportant as documents to be sent to Pekin. This search lasted three hours. The news of the capture had been sent to head-quarters; Colonel Hooker was despatched with a strong body of marines, and Yeh again trembled as he entered his chair a captive.

The following personal description of Yeh is given by the *Times* correspondent:—

It is a huge, sensual, flat face. The profile is nearly straight from the eyebrow to the chin. He wears his Mandarin cap, his red button, and his peacock's tail, but in other respects has the ordinary quilted blue tunic and loose breeches, the universal winter wear of this part of China. He seats himself in an arm chair, and some inferior Mandarins who have pressed in after him stand round and make him a little court. The officers who fill the room are passing to and fro upon their own duties, and of course refrain from staring at him. Yet no one can look upon that face without feeling that he is in the presence of an extraordinary man. There is a ferocity about that restless, roving eye, which almost makes you shrink from it. It is the expression of a fierce and angry, but not courageous animal. While the long nail of his dirty fingers are trembling against the table, and his eyes are ranging into every part of the room in search of every face, his pose of dignity is too palpably simulated to inspire respect, even if you could forget his deeds. But no one can look upon him with contempt.

Yeh and the other prisoners were kept in close custody that night. The next day they were visited by the two admirals and the general:—

The two admirals and the general now arrive, and, after some salutations, which were naturally more embarrassing to the captors than the captive, the English admiral inquired whether Mr. Cooper, sen., was still living. You will recollect the circumstances under which this gentleman was kidnapped. Yeh burst forth into a loud laugh, which sounded to every one present as though he were recollecting and enjoying the recollection of this poor man's sufferings. When he had finished his cacklings he replied, "I can't recollect about this man, but I will make inquiries to-morrow, and if he can be found you shall have him."

The disgust was at that moment so great, for many in the room had known and esteemed poor Cooper, that if the audience could have decided the matter, Yeh would have been taken out and hanged.

He was told that his answer was not courteous, and he replied that it was, at any rate, the only answer he should give.

The admiral now asked whether he had any other prisoners alive in his custody. He appeared to have misunderstood the question, for he replied, "Those eighteen men were my prisoners of war. I took a great deal of trouble about those persons to have them properly buried. I can show you their graves at this day."

"What eighteen men were they?" asked the admiral, "and when were they taken?"

"How can I tell you who they were, and how can I remember when they were taken? You were fighting from October till January, when you were beaten off and expelled, and your ships ran away. It was during this time."

It was evidently not consistent with the dignity of the admirals and general to prolong this conversation. After a moment's consultation they directed Mr. Parkes to assure "his Excellency" that every care would be taken for his personal safety and convenience, but that he would be removed for the present on board ship.

"I don't see any necessity for going on board ship," replied his Excellency, "I can do everything that requires to be done just as well here." But when Yeh observed that the admirals were grave and impassable, and that they were about to retire, his eyes roved round the room again in terror, and he added, "Well, I will accept your invitation. In fact, I shall be very glad to have an opportunity of seeing one of your ships."

It was more than an hour, however, and after delays so frivolous that I cannot describe them, that he was at last fairly seated in his chair. As he progressed, with his escort of marines, along the walls to the landing-place, he met a gang of our commissariat coolies. I am told that these fellows put down their loads and saluted him with a roar of laughter. This was too much. He gnashed his teeth with rage and made a threatening gesture.

Yeh was next day sent on board the *Inflexible*, and was allowed three servants to accompany him on board ship, whom he selected from a number who seemed inclined to follow him into captivity.

On the 9th January, Peh-kwei and the Tartar general were installed in office. They kept Lord Elgin and Baron Gros waiting for two hours. When they came and found seats set apart for them below

the dais where sat the plenipotentiaries, they refused to sit until Lord Elgin made way for them beside him. The Chinamen grinned with delight at the victory they had won. Lord Elgin made a set speech to Peh-kwei. He said that the Allies intended to hold Canton until the questions in dispute were settled. Any treachery would meet with signal punishment; but when all questions are settled, then Canton will be given up. Baron Gros confirmed this statement. Peh-kwei said, "That man Yeh has been the cause of all our troubles." Thus were the Chinamen installed. The admiral instantly returned to the *Coromandel*, and proceeded to Tiger Island with the treasure for the *Calcutta*, and then returned to Canton.

The *China Mail* says:—"We hear it is the intention of Admirals Seymour and Genuilly to raise the blockade of the Canton river immediately; so that trade may soon be expected to resume its wonted channels; for the Chinese are too mercantile a people to let any chance slip of 'turning a penny.' On Monday morning last, the shops in the city were opened for the retail of goods, and the number rapidly increased in the course of that and the following day. No looting of any kind is permitted, and the provost-marshal punished most severely the slightest infringement of his orders; so that, except from their own countrymen, the Chinese have nothing to fear."

Nothing is known of Lord Elgin's future policy, but it is believed he will proceed to the Peiho "as early as possible." All was quiet along the coasts. We learn, however, from Shanghai that the cities of Chin-Kiang-Foo, which had been in possession of the rebels since 1853, and Kwa-chow, on the opposite side of the river, were retaken by the Imperialists at the end of December. These successes, it was considered, would have a favourable effect on the import trade in the north, as the navigation of the Yang-tse-kiang was thereby in a great measure rendered free.

Copies of the correspondence between the Earl of Elgin and the Chinese High Commissioner Yeh have just been published as a Parliamentary paper. Lord Elgin, on the part both of England and France, demands "the complete execution at Canton of all treaty engagements, including the free admission of British subjects into the city, and compensation to British subjects, and persons entitled to British protection, for losses incurred in consequence of the late disturbances." The alternatives are, the occupation of the island of Honan and the prosecution of operations against Canton. Yeh replies, that commercial intercourse has been carried on at Canton on the same principles as at other ports, and the Emperor has ordered that things shall not be changed. In the affair of the lorcha he maintains that justice and equity are on the side of the Chinese. He intimates that the English will find it difficult to occupy Honan, but there is none of the "insolence" in his reply which we have been led to believe was its characteristic; on the contrary, it professes the greatest desire for the maintenance of friendly relations. Other letters follow, Lord Elgin declaring that Yeh has conceded nothing, and Yeh that he had conceded everything, but still really evading a direct answer to his lordship's terms.

#### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The *Invalide Russe*, in a long article, calls for the expulsion from England of refugees convicted or suspected of being mixed up with conspiracies. The article reproaches England with giving refuge to individuals who are notoriously the authors of conspiracies and criminal agitations.

A new sect has been formed in Wurtemberg under the names of "Friends of Jerusalem," and with the object of reconstructing the Temple of Jerusalem, so as to fulfil the prophecies. It has already sent out a commission to undertake the rebuilding of the Temple of Solomon, but it has only been able to raise 5,420 florins for the purpose.

The last accounts from the Indian Seas inform us, says the *Press*, that serious disturbances were on the point of breaking out in Indo-China. The King of Cambodien, who is a tributary of Annam, had refused to obey the edicts issued by the head of that Empire against the Christians, and had detained in his capital of Saigong the envoys from the court of Hué. It was thought that these facts might lead to a civil war, as it is well known that the sovereign of Cambodien is opposed to the Annamite policy, which is completely hostile to foreigners.

The arrival of Madeleine Smith, the alleged poisoner of L'Angelier, in the colony, is reported by the *Ballarat Times*.

At Copenhagen a Ministerial crisis has been produced by the hostile attitude of the German Confederation towards Denmark.

#### POLITICAL GOSSIP.

The *Scotsman* puts forward the following statement exculpatory of Lord Palmerston:—

The facts we are about to state, though they have not hitherto transpired, may, we have good reason to believe, be taken as correct. Immediately on the receipt of the despatch, the Government viewing the document as one which, though not demanding nor even susceptible of a categorical reply, might, or might not be formally answered, just as policy seemed to direct, resolved that, on the whole, it was better to answer it in writing. A reply, therefore, was written, couched, it is understood, in pretty strong terms. But before being converted into a formal despatch, it was, in the first instance, as in the case of all similar documents, read, or, as it is technically called, "communicated," to the French Ambassador, who expressed a very strong desire that it should not be

forwarded in such a form as to necessitate its publicity. The motive of this request was not that the reply would offend the French Emperor or his Ministers, but that, in the then excited state of popular feeling in France, its publication would greatly increase the embarrassments of the Government. In consequence of this representation, Lord Clarendon— we presume with the consent of his colleagues, and certainly with that of Lord Palmerston—ultimately consented to allow the document to remain in the shape of what is known as a "piece communiquée," or more an official letter than a diplomatic despatch. It therefore did not come within the scope of papers laid before Parliament.

A correspondent of the *Plymouth Journal* makes a similar statement, adding that "Louis Napoleon himself is anxious to maintain the alliance, but his difficulty is to hold some of his Ministers and the army." The same correspondent, who is perhaps an M.P., expresses his belief that Lord Derby must be beaten a few months hence, and will then probably dissolve. "My belief is that he will be beaten again, and Lord J. Russell will probably return with a strong Reform Bill, and will be a more satisfactory leader of the Liberal party than Lord Palmerston." Some further gossip from the same journal will be found interesting:—

From other sources we learn that the late division against Palmerston was wholly unexpected when the house assembled on Friday afternoon. There was no whip on the part of the Government, so confident were they of the rejection of Milner Gibson's resolution. Neither did the Tories use any influence to bring their party together, because they felt sure the Government would have a majority. The independent members mustered strongly, and were most determined to do all they could to avert the disgrace which would have attached to the country if the bill had passed. These members were perfectly consistent in supporting Milner Gibson's amendment, for they opposed the introduction of the bill originally. It was not so with the Tories, for they supported the introduction of the bill, and on the amendment turned round and assisted in defeating it. If the amendment had not been carried, then Mr. White's motion, which in our opinion was the more honest amendment of the two, would have been brought forward for the second reading of the bill that day six months. In reference to this amendment Mr. Gibson remarked, that in the event of his own not being carried he would heartily support the motion of his hon. friend the member for Plymouth. Mr. White would have also been supported by Mr. Monckton Milnes, Lord John Russell, and many other influential persons. The unexpected result of the division on Mr. Milner Gibson's motion put a stop to all further proceedings, and Mr. White was from the circumstance of his having a substantive resolution on the paper, which was not brought on, prevented from speaking at all.

A friend says:—I hear from the Conservative side that it is thought some such programme as this will be submitted by Disraeli. He will first take a survey of our present condition at home, and also our international relations. He will point out that we have a war with China, and a mutiny in India, and the necessity of improving our parliamentary system, and providing for an acknowledged deficit in our revenue. Hence it is thought that he will urge that his party is not responsible for this state of things, and will at once ask the house to authorise the loan of seven or ten millions (which in the present state of the money market will please the City people). Instructions will be sent out to China to make peace as soon as possible. The India Bill will be probably postponed to next session; meantime a commission of inquiry will be sent out, or the whole question referred to a committee of the house. The Conservative Reform Bill is already prepared, and it is said to be a more liberal one than would have been brought in by Lord Palmerston—though how this can be known it is impossible to conjecture, for with regard to his Reform Bill Lord Palmerston has kept his secret well. Lord Malmesbury (the new Minister for Foreign Affairs) is the intimate friend of Louis Napoleon, and it is feared that the Alien Bill, but put in another shape, must be supported by our Ministers.

The Palmerstonians believed that Lord Derby would not be able to form a Ministry. But he will. Lord Lansdowne, it is said, told the Queen it was not constitutional to apply to Lord John, as his followers were so few, and his influence so small, that he could not make a Government that could carry on with the slightest prospect of success. Moreover, it was alleged by Lord Lansdowne that Lord John's opposition to the Alien Bill would compromise our amicable relations with France. The Russelites say Lord John is prepared to form a Cabinet, if it should be necessary, and that Sir J. Graham, Gladstone, Cardwell, Horsman, and Milner Gibson would come in with him, and that his advent to office would in no way disturb our peaceful relations with France.

An old friend of Palmerston's, who had an interview with him on Saturday, says he never saw him in such a violent state of indignation as he was on that occasion. He was loud in his wrath, denouncing the perfidy of some score of (professed) friends, who, in his hour of need, walked out of the house to avoid voting at all. Among them were some who had been under the deepest obligations to the late Minister.

We (*Star*) are authorised to state, that the paragraph in the *Observer* of Sunday last, to the effect that "Sir James Graham suggested, and Lord John Russell worded, the resolution" lately moved by Mr. Milner Gibson, as an amendment to the Conspiracy Bill, is entirely untrue. Lord John Russell did not suggest a word in that resolution, and read it for the first time when it appeared on the notice paper of the House of Commons; and Sir James Graham heard it also for the first time when public notice was given of it.

The following extracts are from the *Observer*. Speaking of the defeat in the House of Commons it is said—

That Lord Palmerston, even at the last, could have saved himself from defeat is generally believed, as, when the whipper-in told him that there would be a majority against Government if a division took place, he could have got the debate adjourned until Monday, when, by a judicious whip up and by calling his party together he would have obtained a majority. It cannot, however,

be denied that Lord Palmerston, for once in his life, allowed his temper to influence him, and he determined to take the division that night, let the result be what it might. Perhaps his lordship might also have had in view Mr. Wise's very unpleasant motion for the 4th proximo with reference to the abolition of the office of Lord Privy Seal, which would inevitably bring under discussion the appointment of the Marquis of Clanricarde, the most unfortunate act of the late Premier, and which lost him for the time many votes.

Speaking of the formation of the new Government, the *Observer* remarks:—

Those who are in a position to form a competent opinion, think that if it is able to scramble through a short session on sufferance, it will then die a natural death in the next spring. To those in office, however, an additional fourteen months' tenure of power will be of great personal service, as in the event of being then turned out they would be entitled to superannuation. Thus Mr. Walpole and Mr. Disraeli, &c., would severally be able to claim 2,000*l.* per annum for life—a sum certainly never despised, except in works of fiction. Mr. Wilson, the late Financial Secretary to the Treasury, has been very fortunate. According to the superannuation regulations, he would not be entitled to superannuation until after five years of service. That period expired about five weeks ago, so that he is now enabled to retire for the present into private life, with an income of 1,200*l.* per annum.

We (*Leader*) have heard with deep and sincere regret that there is no probability of Mr. Cobden's accepting a seat in Parliament for a long time to come. Domestic afflictions, one upon another, conspire to prevent him from taking any active part in public business.

## INDIA.

The following is the substance of telegraphic news from India in anticipation of the Bombay mail:—

"The Commander-in-Chief was at Futtyghur, preparing for the invasion of Oude, which would, probably, be made from several points about the 25th. His own column is nearly 15,000 strong, with about 100 pieces of ordnance, while at least 10,000 men from other points will be ready to co-operate with him.

"General Outram has remained at the Alumbagh undisturbed since the 16th of January. He was reinforced on the 22nd by her Majesty's 34th, from Cawnpore, with a convoy of stores. A party of Rifles have taken up a post on the Lucknow road, one march from Cawnpore, where they will remain to keep open communication. 100,000 insurgents are said to be in arms and around Lucknow, which is being strengthened in every possible way. The rebels are said to be losing heart and anxious to negotiate.

"Sir H. Rose, with Central India Field Force, captured the strong fort Ratgurh on the 29th of January, the enemy having escaped over the walls. He afterwards defeated them at Banda. He relieved Saugor on the 3rd, and released about 100 Christian women and children. The garrison had been shut up for six months. The Rajpootana field force captured the strongest town in the province on the 23rd. The garrison escaped over night in a frightful storm of thunder and rain. Sir Hugh was marching on Kotah, where disunion reigns.

"Delhi has been placed under the authority of the Punjab Commissioner. The authority of the civil power has been restored, and the army declared broken up. The cultivators busily employed everywhere cultivating their winter crops, and the revenue being collected in the districts around Delhi as if nothing had happened. The 72nd Regiment arrived at Bombay on the 7th, and the 8th Regiment reached on the same day, *via* the Cape, but large reinforcements of European troops are still required.

"Trade is improving; freights on the advance; all public securities rising. The Governor-General is on his way to the Northern Provinces."

The following are extracts from the *Times* Calcutta correspondent of January 22.

The mutineers are still terribly strong. Hour by hour they receive accessions of men from Gorakhpore, from Rohilkund, and even from Central India. The leaders, driven from Etawah, Allyghur, Futtehghur, Gorakhpore, and Banda, are swarming to Lucknow, with picked bands of desperadoes. The force there concentrated will in a few weeks be not less than 60,000 fighting men, with at least 80 guns and plenty of ammunition. The walls are being repaired, the streets entrenched, and the houses freshly loopholed. Everything indicates that the insurgents driven to bay, intend to die fighting, and with the means at their disposal, they may hold Lucknow as they once held Bhuttpore. They themselves believe that the attack will end in the destruction of both parties. An officer engaged in executing a party of them asked each before he died why he had fought, and what was to be the end of it all? Each gave the same answer, "The slaughter of the English was required by our religion; the end will be the destruction of all the English and all the Sepoys, and then—God knows."

The trunk road is now clear from end to end, and telegraphic communication between Calcutta and Futtehghur, and Agra and Peshawur, is again perfect. The post has been re-established, and in a few more days will regain its old rate of speed.

The old King of Delhi is being tried before a military commission, composed of Lieutenant-Colonel M. Dawes,

Bengal artillery; Major F. R. Palmer, her Majesty's 60th; Major J. P. Redmond, her Majesty's 61st; Major C. Sawyer, her Majesty's 6th Carabiners; and Brigadier Lieutenant-General D. Showers, as president. As his life has been guaranteed, he can be sentenced only to transportation.

I regret to conclude my letter with an account of another massacre. Six persons—Sir Mountstuart Jackson, Captain Patrick Orr, Lieutenant Barnes, Sergeant-Major Morton, Miss Madeline Jackson, and Mrs. Patrick Orr—were known to be in the hands of the Oude rebels. It was hoped that they would be spared as hostages, but the thirst for blood is still unslaked. All the males were blown from guns in the first week of this month. The ladies are still alive, but in confinement, and have lost, they say, all reckoning of time. The Governor-General has offered a lac of rupees for each of them, but, I fear, without effect.

The Cole country has risen. Mr. Edward Lushington set out about eight days ago (I have not the exact date) to arrest a troublesome chief at a point in the jungles beyond Chyebassa. His guide led him into an ambuscade, and he found himself in the midst of 4,000 Coles, protected by jungle. He had three officers and fifty Sikhs with him, but advance was impossible, and he retreated, fighting his way step by step back to his camp. The enemy, armed only with bows and arrows and hatchets, came on with the greatest courage. By the time he regained his camp all the Europeans were wounded. Lieutenant Birch, severely, and half the Sikhs. On arrival he found that his Cole porters had fled, and he could not get Cole for any reward to carry a letter. He therefore retreated again upon Chyebassa, where he awaits reinforcements. Fifty European sailors have been sent up from Midnapore, and two guns, neither of much value in the jungles. The affair is very unpleasant, as this sort of thing is apt to spread, and the Coles hold the hills from Palamow to below Ganjam, in the Madras Presidency. Six months ago the German missionaries assured the local officer, Captain Dalton, that the harvest would be succeeded by a rising, and offered to place 2,000 Christian Coles at his disposal, to form a local corps. The offer was refused.

There is a report that the great Oude zemindars have offered to surrender on condition of immunity. They offer to reveal the entire plan of the revolt from first to last, and to surrender every man guilty of any atrocity, receiving in return immunity for themselves. I believe they do not agree to surrender every Sepoy. The bribe is a large one, as it is of the last importance to ascertain the true history of the conspiracy, but the offer as it stands can never be accepted.

The remnant of the Gwalior mutineers are now said to be nearing Nagode, in Bundelkund, and to be under the leadership of Nana Sahib in person.

It is stated that the 47th N. I. is ordered down to Calcutta in country boats, to prepare to embark for China.

A telegram received at the India House from Bombay, gives a few additional items of news from India. "Brigadier Walpole's column was near the Ramgumma, preparing to cross into Rohilkund. A rebel force was on the opposite bank of the river. Sir Jas. Outram was daily expecting an attack by the whole rebel force in Lucknow. Saugor was relieved by Sir Hugh Rose's force on February 3. On the march to Saugor, Rakjhur was attacked on January 26, but the garrison evacuated the place. The chief rebel leader in Central India, Mohammed Faril, was, however, taken and hanged. On January 31, Sir Hugh Rose defeated the insurgents at Banda. Our loss was slight, but Captain Devil, of the Royal Engineers, was killed. Punjab and Scinde all quiet. All quiet with the exception of Candish, in which, however, no new excesses are reported. Proof has been obtained that Shorapoor Rajah has been collecting troops for a rebellion. A Bombay force from Belgaum, and a Madras force from Kurtool, are advancing to Koolea with the Nizam's troops, for the reduction of the Rajah.

## Postscript.

Wednesday, March 3, 1858.

### THE LATE ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

The examination of Simon Bernard, at the Bow-street Police-court, was continued yesterday afternoon before Mr. Jardine, and occupied the magistrate until after the usual hour of rising. A considerable crowd was attracted on the occasion, and among the gentlemen on the bench we observed Sir William Hayter, Mr. Knowles, Q.C., Sir R. Mayne, and Colonel Labalmondiere, the Police Commissioners, &c. Mr. Bodkin, instructed by the Treasury solicitor, attended for the prosecution, and Mr. Sleight defended the prisoner, who, being apparently unwell, was accommodated with a seat in the dock.

Evidence was given by Ide Georgio, of the Cafe Suisse, in London, that he received certain projectiles similar to those which were used in the attack on the Emperor, from the prisoner, and took them to Brussels; that there they were exposed without scruple, in an open room, as some gas apparatus; that the prisoner arrived in a few days, and with him made arrangements for forwarding the half balls and a horse to Paris, to deliver to an Englishman there. Casimir Zeguerus, a man in his employ, undertook the business. Subsequently, "the Englishman" came to Brussels, and Bernard introduced him to witness. His appearance was altered, but he soon recognised him as Orsini. During the cross-examination of the witness he had kept up a running commentary upon the evidence given, and now he rose from his seat, and striking the dock with great violence, exclaimed, "Oh, infame! infame!" This to occur in a country like Belgium! An innocent person dragged from his home and imprisoned because he befriended me. Zeguerus gave evidence that he took the balls to Paris, and delivered them to Orsini. He saw M. Bernard

afterwards at their *cave*, and told him that the horse had arrived safe in Paris. He said he knew that

The prisoner begged again to address the Court. He spoke in the same excited manner as before. He called upon England to demand of her ally that Orsini should be delivered up and examined at this court. Mr. Sleight said if the presence of Orsini could make the innocence of Bernard manifest, it would be a gracious act on the part of the French Government to allow him to be brought over.

Mr. Bodkin:—Let M. Bernard be assured that he will be tried by English law and with English justice.

The case was then remanded to Thursday afternoon.

Last night's *Gazette* contains the official announcement of the new Ministerial appointments, including the appointments to the various offices connected with the Court.

Lord Stanley has issued a brief address to the electors of Lynn. He reserves the exposition of his views on public affairs for his speech.

Viscountess Palmerston will hold "receptions" at Cambridge House on Saturday next, and on Saturday, the 13th instant.

We understand that a permanent committee has been formed to organise opposition in London, and throughout the country, to any Conspiracy Bill which may be introduced by Lord Derby's Government—*Morning Star*.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has appointed Mr. Ralph Earle, Attaché to her Majesty's Embassy at Paris, to be his private secretary.

The *Herald* says:—"Lord Cowley will most probably for the present retain his post as Ambassador at Paris. As one of the Plenipotentiaries engaged in the negotiations resulting in the treaty of Paris, his perfect acquaintance with many complicated questions involved in our Eastern diplomacy renders his presence almost indispensable at the conferences that will shortly be re-opened at Paris."

At the adjourned meeting of the National Constitutional League yesterday, the following resolution was moved by H. Cavaliere Castine:—

That we, the delegates of the National League, and exponents of Italian nationality, do, before we break up our meeting, take proper steps to lay before the public generally a proper exposition of our views and wishes, and thus, by so doing, make manifest the moderation and justice of our principles.

After considerable discussion the resolution was carried, and the meeting was then adjourned to this day, when matters of considerable importance it is expected will be discussed.

The weather is now a serious subject of conversation. This morning the ground in London and its vicinity is covered with snow, which is still falling. There has been a considerable fall of snow during the last few days in the neighbourhood of Manchester, and owing to the high winds prevailing yesterday morning, the drifting in the hilly district to the north and east of that city was sufficient to cause a serious interruption to railway communication. The Manchester and Sheffield Railway was completely blocked on both lines, for a considerable distance, near Hadfield, and all trains from Sheffield to Manchester, or in the contrary direction, were compelled, on reaching that point, to stop or return. A similar stoppage took place on the London and North-Western line from Manchester to Huddersfield, between Greenfield and Diggle, for a distance of about three miles. The following is from Dover, Tuesday, 7.30 p.m.:—"It is blowing so heavy a gale in the channel from east that there is no change of any departures or arrivals of the mail packets to night." A letter from Shields, dated Monday afternoon, says:—"The weather has been exceedingly rough on the Northumbrian coast since Sunday; there is a heavy sea, and the wind has been dead upon the land. A considerable number of deeply-laden collier vessels and iron screw colliers sailed from the Tyne and Wear on Sunday morning, and the greatest anxiety prevails with respect to their safety."

The new "continental system," by which it is sought to exclude suspicious arrivals from England, has already begun to tell fearfully on the shopkeepers of Paris. Galignani's great room is a desert. People will not be at the trouble of all this cumbersome machinery of solemn passports, and this metropolis cannot live on Russians alone.—*Paris Correspondent of the Globe*.

Rumours have circulated for the last two days that, after all, the life of Orsini is likely to be spared. To what degree they are entitled to credit I cannot say. I am equally ignorant on what grounds his title to clemency is based. The subjoined letter to the Emperor, as published in the *Moniteur* with the rest of the proceedings, has produced an unpleasant impression on the representatives of some of the German States, and it certainly will not promote goodwill between the Court of Vienna and that of the Tuilleries.—*Paris Correspondent of the Times*.

All the generals comprised in the decree of banishment of 1851 are now at length relieved from it; but Colonel Charras, the Republican Minister-at-War, still remains under the ban.

## MARK-LANE—THIS DAY.

Scarcely any English wheat was received fresh up to our market, to-day, coastwise and by land carriage. Good and fine samples sold to a moderate extent, at full prices: but all other kinds were very dull. The show of foreign wheat was tolerably good, but so little business was transacted in it that the quotations were almost nominal. Fine barley was firm, at full currencies. Other kinds supported previous rates. For malt, the inquiry was wholly retail, at late rates. There was a moderate demand for oats, at full prices. Beans, peas, and flour realised Monday's currency.

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## The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 1858.

## SUMMARY.

At a Privy Council held on Friday, the late Ministers surrendered the seals of office, and the members of the new Government were formally sworn in. Though the country is now under a Derby regime, there are no signs of that panic which some of the organs of the late Ministry foretold. The Funds have nearly recovered from the decline which resulted, not less from the unsettling of our relations with France, than from the change of government at home; the downfall of the late Premier is now spoken of, even by his partisans, with singular resignation; fair play to Lord Derby is the general feeling; while even the leading journal, which, for the first few days of the Ministerial crisis saw everything through Palmerstonian spectacles, has begun to acknowledge that the newly-constituted Ministry contains promising elements which may work some good for the country. The Derby-Dissident Cabinet has it in its power to show how unreasonable are those traditional prejudices which, in the present state of political parties, are little more than a name. That Minister can not have very reactionary tendencies, who, as he explained on Monday, felt no hesitation in inviting Mr. Gladstone and Earl Grey to share his power, whose Chancellor of the Exchequer has few aristocratic sympathies and whose Conservative predilections will be held in check by the counsels of his own son and Sir John Pakington—statesmen with whom Liberalism has for the last few years been an adopted creed. But, should the new Government enjoy but a short tenure of office, it may be the means of bringing into training a new class of administrators, re-organising a vigilant opposition to Whig exclusiveness, and reviving public interest in political questions. The new First Lord of the Admiralty, in his address to his constituents, also gives expression to a wholesome truth, when he remarks that "it is essential to the well-working of our system of Parliamentary Government, that the people should not suppose there is only one man who can guide the State, or only one party who can be entrusted with the public interests."

The general drift of the policy of the new Government was indicated by Lord Derby in an eloquent speech to his brother peers on Monday night. We have described its prominent features in a separate article. Lord Granville, who followed, took the opportunity of reviewing the acts of the Ministry of which he was lately a member, while Lord Clarendon elaborately defended the course taken by himself and colleagues in reference to Count Walewski's despatch and the Conspiracy Bill. In the teeth of the evidence furnished by the act of accusation against Orsini and his fellow-criminals, the noble lord persists in declaring the French Minister's statements respecting this country as "strictly and literally true" and that "any man who, understanding French, or having read the translation, represents the despatch otherwise, is guilty of gross and wilful misrepresentation of its meaning." We could fain wish our late Foreign Minister had exhibited that persistency and disregard of external influences, we find in his speech of Monday, when he was called upon to take up the case of the two poor English victims

of Neapolitan persecution, whose continued incarceration is a standing commentary on a foreign policy which has doubly sacrificed the national honour. We may observe that the general tenor of Lord Clarendon's statement is irreconcilable with the report so industriously circulated of a spirited reply having at first been sent to Count Walewski, and afterwards withdrawn at the Emperor's request. His assiduous quotation of private letters to Lord Cowley shows that he was incapable of so courageous an act. "It is too evident," justly remarks the *Times*, "that one fatal idea ran through all that was done on our side. That was to manage the difficulty without meeting it face to face; to do it quietly, privately, irregularly, and irresponsibly, as between one man or one household and another, not as between nation and nation."

More of the new Ministers who are members of the House of Commons are about to go through the ordeal of re-election. Probably none of them will meet with serious opposition. But, we see not why the occasion should be neglected of letting them know what the public require from statesmen who would preserve their good opinion. Sir Fitzroy Kelly tells his constituents that he "in common with the chiefs of the Conservative party in the House of Commons," supported Mr. Gibson's amendment in the second reading of the Conspiracy Bill, "on the ground that the provisions of the bill afforded no effective remedy to the evils proposed to be redressed, and that the bill itself was an invasion of the principle of independent action which has hitherto been held sacred alike by the Parliament and the people." Now if the measure "afforded no effective remedy to the evils proposed to be redressed," himself and the other "chiefs," may properly be asked to oppose its resuscitation. It is quite likely that the new Ministers may dislike giving any pledge on the subject of Church-rates, but that is no reason why the independent electors of Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, North Wilts, North Staffordshire, North Northumberland, East Suffolk, Huntingdon, Cockerham, and the other vacant constituencies should not plainly and unmistakably express their resolution to accept nothing short of total repeal. The moral effect of such a demonstration at such a time could not fail to be great.

The trial of the conspirators against the life of the Emperor of the French took place on Thursday and Friday, and appears to have been conducted with great impartiality. The elaborate act of accusation clearly enough shows that the atrocious scheme was concocted as much in Belgium and France as in England, and that so entirely were the French police off their guard that the murderous instruments of destruction were, on one occasion, openly exposed on a sofa at Orsini's lodgings in Paris. Count Walewski may fairly be asked how the Conspiracy to Murder Bill could in any way have frustrated the plot. The evidence against Orsini and his confederates was clear enough. They were convicted, and all but Gomez, sentenced to undergo the fate of parricides. Since his arrest the principal criminal has conducted himself in a way to merit sympathy. His own speech on the trial, his letter to the Emperor read by his counsel, and his subsequent bearing show that he courageously accepts the penalty of failure. But, while pitying the criminal, let us not forget that more than 100 innocent persons were killed or wounded in this murderous attempt, which, after all, only gave a chance of reaching the Imperial victim. It is for men of Liberal opinions particularly to hold in remembrance that a massacre was effected for the sake of killing one man, and scrupulously avoid exalting into a hero a criminal as cruel and unscrupulous in pursuit of his object as the despot they denounce.

The late Government used great diligence in filling up all vacancies prior to yielding up the reins of office. They have appointed a successor to Dr. Wilson, the late Bishop of Calcutta, the last of a series of ecclesiastical appointments, which, according to the *Record*, "will form an era in the history of the Church of England." Perhaps Lord Palmerston by these episcopal nominations, intended to condone the civil appointments which his own daily apologist tells us were so selfishly clutched at by men whose only qualifications were aristocratic connexions. Last night's *Gazette* contains, perhaps, the last and most characteristic promotion. Sir Richard Hayter has undoubtedly earned his baronetcy, if laborious devotion to his chief, and successful and not very scrupulous management of Liberal members, constitute a claim. Lord Palmerston, in the last act before the fall of the curtain, ennobling his "whipper-in"—the man who made things pleasant in the lobby—would be a subject worthy of Leach's pencil.

What will the Derby Government do with the Church-rate Abolition Bill, the second reading of which has been carried in the Commons, and which now awaits Committee? Will they propose a

compromise, or entirely eschew legislation? That they may attempt the latter is suggested by the ostentatious reply of the "Committee of Laymen" to the statements laid before Lord Palmerston. It will be seen that Dr. Foster has lost no time in responding to the pro-rate advocates. How far he has succeeded in demolishing their fallacies, we leave our readers to decide.

News from the East give details of the occupation of Canton, the capture of Yeh, the installation of a protected Chinese government, upon which we have expressed our thoughts elsewhere. Although the interest in Indian affairs has considerably declined since the certainty prevailed of the extinction of the revolt, each weekly mail brings intelligence equally important and gratifying. We now learn that Sir Colin Campbell was to advance into Oude on the 25th of January, though his force did not exceed 15,000 men with about 100 pieces of ordnance. Jung Bahadoor has advanced upon Fyzabad, and it is believed that the Commander-in-chief will, with Sir James Outram, lay siege to Lucknow, which is being strengthened in every possible way by the rebels, who are said to have some 100,000 men in arms. Sir Hugh Rose has at last relieved the garrison of Saugor, with about 100 women and children, after six months' confinement. So tranquil is Delhi and its neighbourhood that the civil power has been restored and the greater part of the troops withdrawn. In short, confidence was every day rising, and with the prospect of a speedy pacification in all parts of Hindostan except Rohilkund and Oude.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE House of Commons reassembled on Friday last, after an adjournment of four days, to allow of the completion of the new ministerial arrangements. Lord Derby having in the meanwhile constructed his Cabinet, the Conservatives passed over to the right hand of the Speaker, the great body of Liberals locating themselves on the left. There was a strong muster of members, although few could have gone down to the House in any expectation of hearing a *programme* of the policy by which the new Premier hopes to convert his minority into a majority. The scene was curious enough. On the Treasury bench such of the subordinates of the incoming Administration as were fortunate enough to gain office without subjecting themselves to the hard necessity of vacating their seats, took the places of their predecessors. Amongst them Mr. G. A. Hamilton, Sir W. Jolliffe, and Mr. Corry were the most prominent, while Sir B. Hall, Lord Duncan, Mr. Lowe, Mr. Hayter, and Mr. J. Wilson, occupied the front bench on the Opposition side. Sir James Graham, feeling probably that he was quite as near Lord Derby in political sentiment as he was to Lord Palmerston, retained his old seat on the second bench below the gangway on the ministerial side. Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Sidney Herbert remained with him. Mr. Bright and Mr. Milner Gibson, on the other hand, went over to the Opposition, and took the corresponding seats opposite to the Carlisle baronet. Lord John Russell also crossed over, but came down from the back benches to the front. Lord Palmerston installed himself as leader of the Opposition amidst the cheers of his friends, and to the hearty disgust of not a few of the Liberals who are extremely disinclined to acknowledge his leadership. But soft! who is this short, squat, bald-headed man, walking up the floor towards the Treasury bench, apparently absorbed in finishing off in his own mind the smartest sentences of the philippic he is presently about to deliver? That is Sir R. Bethell, the late Attorney-General. He does not notice the change which has taken place. Habit leads him to his old place, and lo! there he finds Mr. Whiteside, smiling and holding out his hand to greet him. The truth flashes upon him then, and he hurries across to the other side amid a burst of laughter.

The routine proceedings are gone through as usual. The private bill business is transacted. Petitions are presented—but the buzz of conversation envelopes the whole in a sort of noisy indistinctness. Presently Sir W. Jolliffe rises, and there is a hush. He moves one after another the new writs rendered necessary by recent appointments. It is the authentic announcement to the House of posts already filled, and of the members of the Lower House who have been bold enough to accept them. A slight cheer hails the mention of Sir F. Thesiger's name "who has accepted the office of Lord High Chancellor." Sir W. Jolliffe then moves the customary Friday's motion, "that the House at its rising do adjourn to Monday," and states that on Monday he will move such new writs as appointments to offices not yet filled may render necessary, and will then ask for an adjournment to Friday week, March 12th, to give time for the re-election of the newly appointed administration. The question having been put, Sir R. Bethell takes advantage of the opportunity to

deliver his defence against the criticism of the law lords on his statement of British law as affecting the crime of conspiracy. "Defence" do we call it? It was an attack seasoned with such extreme bitterness as nothing but a sudden loss of position could explain. It required, of course, a good deal of address so to conduct the assault on Lord St. Leonards and Lord Campbell, for words uttered in the other House of Parliament, as not to run athwart the standing orders of the House which forbid any reference to what has passed in the House of Lords, as well as all allusion to previous debates which may have taken place in the House of Commons during the current session. But Sir R. Bethell can pick his way as carefully and precisely as a cat of mature age along a wall armed with broken glass bottles. Mr. P. Scott rose to call the hon. and learned gentleman to order, but the Speaker decided that he had not transgressed it; and so the late Attorney-General went on for three-quarters of an hour, vituperating Lord Campbell as wanting in "good breeding and good manners," as "incontinent of tongue," and as having fallen into "one of the most extensive misapprehensions, and" with a peculiar and insinuative emphasis on the parenthetical words "(of course unintentional) misrepresentations that it is possible to conceive." He concluded by expressing his trust that he should never again have occasion to make such a statement, in which trust, we believe the majority of the House thoroughly concurred with him.

When Sir R. Bethell had concluded, Mr. Warren rose to read him a timely lecture on the impropriety of setting the two Houses together by the ears, and was called to order, but at the wrong moment, by Mr. Ker. But proceeding to comment on Sir R. Bethell's speech of the preceding Friday, he was speedily stopped by the Speaker, and was obliged to content himself with deprecating the tone in which Lord Campbell had been assailed. The subject dropped—the question was put and carried—and then Mr. Milnes gave notice that on Friday week he would call attention to the vexations of the altered passport system adopted in France, and Mr. Spooner, that very soon after Easter, he would move for leave to bring in a bill for taking away the endowment from Maynooth College—an announcement which was greeted with burst of ironical cheers. The House then proceeded to the consideration of the East India Loan Bill as amended, upon which some conversation ensued as to what course should be taken with it in the altered circumstances of the Government. Eventually, it was agreed that the eleventh clause of the bill should be withdrawn, and that the further consideration of the measure should be adjourned to Monday. But neither of these engagements was carried into effect. The eleventh clause still remained in the bill, and the House, on Monday evening, after a few minutes' conversation, postponed the further consideration of the measure until Friday, the 12th instant. In fact, the House rose at a quarter before five, and the greater number of the members then present hurried into the House of Lords to hear Lord Derby deliver that speech upon which we have freely commented below.

#### THE DERBY MANIFESTO.

If Lord Palmerston had been the speaker in the House of Lords on Monday evening instead of Lord Derby, and had delivered that elegant and eloquent harangue with which the noble earl entertained without instructing his admiring audience, all the noble lord's partisans would have conspired to force public opinion into an admission that it was a grand display of statesmanship. But it would not have been a whit more true of Palmerston than of Derby. It was a feat of oratory; but it can lay claim to no higher praise. The speech was characterised by a magnificent flow of language—by a genial suavity of tone—and by a wonderful fascination of manner—but the policy it disclosed, if, indeed, it can be said to have disclosed any policy whatever, was as shadowy and enigmatical as oracle ever delivered. The garniture was profuse—the joints were few and meagre.

The principles which are to regulate our conduct towards foreign powers commend themselves, at first blush, to our judgment. We are right glad to be assured that the present Government intends to take the tone, neither of intimidation, nor of servile submission, in regard to any of them—that its intercourse with them will be frankly and unreservedly carried on—that it will carefully abstain from any interference with their purely domestic affairs—and that if, under any circumstances, causes of difference shall arise, it will seek the first opportunity of arranging those differences through the means of frank and friendly communication. We are not less pleased to hear that the recent success of our arms at Canton is regarded as a fitting opportunity for concluding, with the least possible delay, a safe and honour-

able peace, and that all attempt to aim at territorial aggression, at increased political power, or at anything beyond full security for free and peaceful commerce, in that part of the world, is not merely disclaimed, but strongly reprobated. Thus much we hold to be eminently satisfactory, and can only express our earnest hope that the spirit which prompted these soothing utterances will speedily exert a quieting influence over our diplomatic agents in every quarter of the globe.

Considering the circumstances under which the noble lord comes into office, we have no objection to his putting in the forefront of his *programme*, "a good understanding" with France. The first step the new administration has felt bound to take has been, in conformity with the resolution of the House of Commons, and in friendly and conciliatory terms, to reply to Count Walewski's despatch, and to request from the French Minister such an explanation as may remove the unpleasant feelings which its language has excited in this country. The powers of the law as it stands will be immediately put in force for the purpose of checking all dangerous designs and machinations which may chance to be afoot. Whether, however, any new measure, similar or analogous to the Conspiracy to Murder Bill, will be submitted to the judgment of the Legislature, is left to be determined by the course of events, and, in some measure, we fear, by the pressure which the French Minister may deem it worth his while to bring to bear upon our Foreign-office at home. So far as present indications can be trusted, the country has certainly lost nothing by a change of Ministry.

But now, to look at home, what do we lose? The India Bill will be abandoned—but, in deference to the strongly pronounced opinion of the House of Commons against further postponement of legislation on the question, another bill will be brought in, as soon as may be, embodying some of the principles of the bill of the late Government, "but at the same time free from some of the objections to which that measure was open." Whether we are to have an improved or a deteriorated plan for the home administration of our Eastern empire, it is impossible to gather from these words. We suppose a transference of power to the Crown from the East India Company will be retained as the leading feature of the measure—and, for our own part, we cannot pretend to have valued the details of Lord Palmerston's bill so highly as to resent any change in them. Lord Ellenborough, perhaps, is as likely to understand the subject he has taken in hand as Mr. Vernon Smith.

But what has Lord Derby to say of Parliamentary Reform? Well, he says that *he* is satisfied with the representative system as it now exists—but, inasmuch as the country is not satisfied with it, and moreover has been promised an emendation of it by several successive governments, he will, if other business admits of it, take the matter into his gracious consideration after the present Session, and will probably be prepared to submit a moderate measure somewhere about this time next year. The impudence of this announcement, bland as were the terms in which it was made, is cool enough—the folly of it, looking at the noble earl's chances of retaining power, will be patent to everybody. No! my Lord Derby, Parliamentary Reform is not one of those questions which will wait your convenience. The people will probably take this matter, so vitally affecting their own interests, into their own hands. Their will and not yours will decide the future course it shall take. Their minds are made up, if yours is not. And a majority in the House of Commons will, no doubt, either hasten your movements, or cut short your ministerial career.

And now, having summarised this Derby Manifesto, we put it to our readers whether it is not preposterous, that a man who has only a minority of the House of Commons at command, and who is at still lower discount in the country, should be imposed upon us as the penalty of protesting against the vagaries of another man, not an iota more in sympathy with either Parliament or the people? How long are our national affairs to be tossed backwards and forwards between chiefs who, at bottom, understand but little of, and care less for, the spirit of the age? To this humiliating alternative—Palmerston or Derby—we have been brought by our all but universal pandering to the exclusive pretensions of aristocracy. Till we get the better of this national meanness, we must put up with the inconveniences it entails on us. "A plague o' both your houses," the people may well exclaim. And they do sometimes—but it is "with bated breath and whispering humbleness." Whenever they get a competent leader of their own rank, they cashier him. They can pardon almost anything but want of rank or want of wealth. And they have their reward. A Palmerston bamboozles them, or a Derby stands like a post in their way.

#### THE BLOWERS OF BANK BUBBLES.

The late Directors of the Royal British Bank, after a trial extending over thirteen days, have been found guilty of conspiring to defraud the shareholders of that institution, and have received sentence according to the measure of their guilt. The verdict was a righteous one. There could not remain the shadow of a doubt, after the publication of the voluminous evidence.—First, that they made out a balance-sheet and presented it to the shareholders, on December 31st, 1855, containing false and fraudulent statements.—Secondly, that every one of the Directors knew that such statements were both false and fraudulent.—Thirdly, that these statements were made with a view to bolster up the credit of an insolvent concern. Lord Campbell, in passing sentence, justly described this as "a great crime"—a crime, however, which we fear, has been by no means uncommon. Yet this, we believe, is the first attempt in this country to bring home the penal terrors of the law against this species of commercial dishonesty. But for that fact, probably, none of the individuals who have now been convicted would have ventured to place themselves in so disgraceful a situation. We can easily conceive that some of them, at least, looked upon the transaction to which they gave a too easy assent as a very venial breach of commercial morality. They thought that by a deviation from truth in their report to the shareholders, they were best consulting not only their own, but the shareholders' interests. They found themselves embarked in a sinking concern. They feared that the first disclosure of the true state of affairs would raise a universal shout of "sauve qui peut" —and, therefore, they produced a statement which, in figures, might be true, but in fact was false, trusting to this deceit, and to whatever time and accident might turn up, to bring their water-logged craft to port. Nothing can extenuate the guilt of such conduct. We are bound to admit, however, that whilst all were guilty of the intent to defraud all were not equally guilty. Four of the misdemeanants, Kennedy, Owen, Macleod, and Stapleton, were recommended by the jury to the merciful consideration of the Court, on the ground, no doubt, that they had not turned their criminal actions to any selfish account. Cameron, the manager, and Brown, the principal creditor as well as director of the affair, were the real swindlers—and their plans were but too well seconded by Eddale. The punishments inflicted were light considering the offence—not nearly so light, however, as they may seem. That these men's characters are blasted, and that they are degraded publicly into the criminal rank, is a heavier award than any mere term of imprisonment. That it may answer its true purpose we heartily pray—and we hope it may read this lesson to the commercial world, that conventional dishonesties can never be respectable, and that the moment they are brought out into the light of day, and are tested by the true principles of rectitude, they collapse into crimes, and involve those who unthinkingly perpetrate them in irremediable disgrace. "Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not prosper."

#### CANTON UNDER BRITISH "PROTECTION."

For a second time within the last twenty years, the city of Canton, with its dense population, is in the hands of British authorities, and is to be held as a "material guarantee" until the demands of the French and English plenipotentiaries are acceded to by the Court of Pekin. The details just received of the final operations, though they do not alter our view of the original merits of the quarrel fastened upon the Cantonese, or of the injustice, harshness, and precipitancy of Sir John Bowring in commencing hostilities, show that the military and naval resources of the Anglo-French expedition have been used with as much judgment and care for the preservation of life and property as was, under the circumstances, possible. If, however, on the one hand, it may be said that history can furnish no similar case of a large city being taken by bombardment and assault with so little bloodshed, outrage, and destruction; on the other it may be affirmed that the victors have little reason to be proud of the capture of the capital of Kwang-Tung. A force of 6,000 European soldiers, sailors, and marines, well trained and disciplined, backed by a formidable fleet, and supplied with formidable artillery, have knocked to pieces the rickety forts that surrounded Canton, scattered the handful of "braves" that made a show of defence, and forced a passage into the city. It was a war of giants and pygmies, in which the real strength was all on one side. We are glad that our own troops and the Cantonese have suffered so little in these operations, but must entirely leave to others to exult at so easy a triumph over so feeble and unresisting a foe. We only trust, for the sake of the national reputation, that should Ministers be

moved to propose votes of thanks to our forces in China, they will avoid the burlesque of extolling the greatness of the victory gained over Yeh and his ragged regiments.

We are glad to take leave of the harsher features of this strange expedition, and to glance at some of its comic aspects. After the outer defences of Canton had been taken, the gates and walls blown in, and some of the official buildings destroyed, the Allies waited for five days in the hope that the city would be formally surrendered. But the imperturbable Chinese remained as impassive as ever, either from sheer indifference, or else because the terrorism established by Yeh was so complete, that none of his fellow-citizens dared to stir. At last, on the 5th of January, four small columns—three English and one French, entered the city at different points. One, under Captain Hollaway, found its way with no little difficulty, to the yamen of Peh-kwei, the governor of the city, and captured him while comfortably seated at breakfast. Like a true Chinese, he was quite surprised at the intrusion. A second, under Captain Parkes, took possession, without resistance, of the Treasury, seized its contents, and accepted the eager services of volunteer Coolies to carry them to the ships. The French force succeeded in tracking the redoubtable Tartar general, six foot four in stature, to the recesses of his dwelling. It was reserved for Mr. Parkes and Commodore Elliot, to hunt after the great Commissioner. After nearly losing itself in the intricate streets, the little column under their command, at length by the aid of a guide, found its way to the house in which Yeh was secreted, but preparing to leave. How the fat Governor-General of Kwang-Tung commencing to scale a wall found his waist encircled by one bluff blue-jacket, and his tail grasped by another—how he was brought into the presence of the French and English ambassadors—his appearance—his arrogance—his desire to transact business on the spot—and his final acceptance of the invitation to set a British ship:—are described more fully elsewhere.

After these amusing incidents, Peh-kwei and the Tartar general were formally reinstated in office, the former to govern the city with the aid of an European tribunal, the latter to disarm and disband his own troops, and preserve order. But like Yeh, these punctilious officials submitted with an ill grace to the new *regime*, contesting and carrying points of etiquette against their conquerors, and seemingly incapable of realising their new position. Much of this display may only arise from the importance attached by the Mandarin class to maintaining an outward show of official dignity before their countrymen. They were, however, told by Lord Elgin, that any treachery on their part would meet with condign punishment, and that Canton would be held by the Allies until the questions in dispute were settled by the Imperial Government. Of course they acquiesced.

Whatever may be the result of Lord Elgin's appeal to the Emperor at Pekin, there is no reason to anticipate further difficulties at Canton, so long as it is held by the Allied forces. It is suspected that Yeh governed the two provinces of which Canton is the capital, rather as an independent sovereign than as the viceroy of the Pekin Government; and that his authority was upheld by ferocious mercenaries far more than by the free will of the population. It is remarkable, that among his papers should have been found the original ratifications of the treaties with England, France, and America, which documents he had not thought important enough to forward to Pekin. The exclamation of Peh-kwei—"That man, Yeh, has been the cause of all our troubles," and the rejoicing of the Coolies and labourers when they saw their oppressor in secure custody, may really have expressed the feeling of the great body of the citizens. At present the Cantonese regard their new masters with sullen indifference. "The imperturbable Chinamen go on just as if nothing had happened." Time will show whether they harbour those vindictive feelings which Orientals of every race, as we have painfully discovered, so easily dissemble. It is quite possible, however, that their commercial instincts, and the forbearance of their conquerors, may overcome their ignorant prejudices, and that their revenge may be confined to the attempt to "turn a penny" by the "barbarians" that now mingle among them. Byee silver seems to have more charm for them than patriotic appeals.

It remains to be seen, first, whether the news of the fall of Canton will penetrate to the Imperial Court, and, secondly, whether it will extort from the Emperor those concessions which are embodied in the proposed new treaty. The Plenipotentiaries were about to proceed northward, with the view of prosecuting their "mission" to Pekin. The way has been somewhat opened to them by the re-capture by the Imperialists, of two important cities on the banks

of the Yang-tse-Kiang, which re-opens the navigation of that great stream. But his improved position may induce the far-distant Emperor to refuse to receive the embassy, and resist their demands, till the Allies have formally declared war, and gained successes nearer to the seat of Government.

The recent change of Government invests with special importance the views expressed by Lord Derby, in respect to China, in the House of Lords on Monday. He declared his belief that the recent success at Canton would give us the opportunity of concluding with the least possible delay, a safe and honourable peace, and would enable us to resume the benefits and advantages of that commercial intercourse for which alone it can be of the slightest advantage to us to maintain any communication whatever with such a country as China. He further remarked:—

The idea of territorial aggression, the idea of acquisition of power, the idea of doing more than obtaining adequate security for carrying on freely peaceful commerce, will, I trust, never enter the head of any Minister who conducts the affairs of this empire.

We do not see that this declaration of policy will interfere with the mission of Lord Elgin and Baron Gros, who, of course, have no instructions to make "territorial aggressions." But in the interest of humanity, and of the Chinese themselves, we can only hope that their embassy to the Court of Pekin may be crowned with success, and lead to the removal of all obstacles to the freest commercial intercourse between civilised nations and the inhabitants of the Celestial Empire.

#### MUSICAL NOTES.

The performance of *Elijah*, under Mr. Hullah's direction, at St. Martin's Hall, attracted and, we think we may add, highly gratified, a very full audience, on Wednesday night. The orchestra, as effective for an accompaniment as can be desired—choruses sufficiently powerful to give adequate expression to Mendelssohn's sublime ideas, and second in precision only to those of the Sacred Harmonic Society—and solo singers, some of the very highest, and all of a superior order—contributed to give a highly satisfactory rendering of this the most popular oratorio of the late eminent composer. Mrs. Street, a *debutante* with a sweet voice, well trained and well managed, took the leading *soprano* part—and, but that she exhibited a deficiency of dramatic force, performed her part very pleasingly. Miss Palmer, an *alto*, improves greatly upon acquaintance. We do not allude so much to her performance of the exquisite song "O rest in the Lord," which the audience encored, but to her magnificent declamation of the recitative put by the musician into the mouth of Jezebel. Nothing could be more perfectly done than the accompanied trio "Lift thine eyes," which also was encored, to the great detriment of that unity which pervades the entire oratorio. Of Mr. Sims Reeves it is unnecessary to speak. He gave "If with all your hearts," and "Then shall the righteous," as he always does, with thrilling effect. Mr. Santley sustained the arduous part of *Elijah* with much credit. His bass is rich and sonorous, and his music faultless—but surely it were possible for him to throw more fire into his part—particularly into the recitatives in which he challenges and taunts the priests of Baal. We have no wish, however, to indulge in criticism on what afforded us, on the whole, such high gratification. Mr. Hullah has succeeded in getting around him a most effective musical *corps*—and the response of the public to his efforts proves that he has not laboured in vain.

On the following evening, St. Martin's Hall was the scene of a musical entertainment of a different kind. Mr. H. Leslie's choir appear to have quite established themselves there, and on Thursday evening gave their fifth concert before a very crowded audience. The first part consisted of sacred music, comprising Mendelssohn's "Hear my prayer"—the solo part being pleasingly sustained by Miss Hemming, a charming motett by Mozart, "Ave verum," and Mr. Smart's popular part song "Ave Maria," which was very heartily encored. Part songs and madrigals formed the feature of the second part of the entertainment. They were sung with that delicacy and expression which have given Mr. Leslie's choir an unrivalled position in the musical world. The programme was as varied as it was interesting. Mendelssohn of course supplied his quota, including "Slumber dearest," and "The merry wayfarer," for male voices. The bridal song in honour of the Princess Royal was again given, but scarcely gains by repetition, while the flowery duett from Benedict's "Crusaders" was felt to be out of place. Mr. Leslie himself contributed another new piece in the shape of a choral song, "O gentle sleep," which was moderately successful. But the thorough appreciation of Allen's "I love my love in the morning," and Pearsall's "Who shall win my lady fair," show how heartily an English audience is able to appreciate the light and lively part-song. We trust Mr. Leslie will continue to set his face against the nuisance of indiscriminate encores.

The Rev. Father Ravignan, the well-known preacher, has just expired at Paris.

#### THE NEW MINISTRY.

We subjoin a list of the members of the new Government, so far as they are known, adding the corresponding appointments made by the Earl of Derby in 1852, together with the ages of the new Ministers:—

#### THE CABINET.

1858. 1852.

FIRST LORD OF THE TREASURY. Earl of Derby (59). Earl of Derby.

LORD CHANCELLOR. Sir F. Thesiger (64). Lord St. Leonards.

PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL. Marquis of Salisbury (67). Earl of Lonsdale.

CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER. Mr. Disraeli (53). Mr. Disraeli.

FOREIGN SECRETARY. Lord Maltesbury (51). Lord Maltesbury.

HOME SECRETARY. Mr. Walpole (52). Mr. Walpole.

COLONIAL SECRETARY. Lord Stanley (52). Sir J. Pakington.

FIRST LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY. Sir John Pakington (59). Duke of Northumberland.

WAR DEPARTMENT. General Peel (59). Mr. Beresford ("W. B.")

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE. Mr. Henley (65). Mr. Henley.

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL. Earl of Ellenborough (68). Mr. Herries.

LORD PRIVY SEAL. Earl of Hardwicke (59). Marquis of Salisbury.

BOARD OF WORKS. The Duke of Montrose. Lord John Manners.

#### NOT IN THE CABINET.

CHANCELLOR OF THE DUCHY OF LANCASTER. Lord John Manners (40). Mr. R. A. Christopher.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL. Lord Colchester. Earl of Hardwicke.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE. Lord Donoughmore. Lord Colchester.

PRESIDENT OF THE POOR LAW BOARD. Mr. Sotheron Estcourt (57). Sir J. Trollope.

LORDS OF THE TREASURY. Colonel Taylor (46). Marquis of Châlons.

Mr. Whitmore (44). Mr. Bateson.

Mr. G. A. Hamilton. Lord H. Leslie.

Lord H. Lennox. Mr. John Need.

SECRETARIES OF THE TREASURY. Mr. G. A. Hamilton (56). Mr. G. A. Hamilton.

Sir W. Jolliffe (29). Mr. Forbes Mackenzie.

SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY. Lt. Hon. H. Corry (55). A. Stafford, Esq.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL. Sir Fitzroy Kelly (62). Sir F. Thesiger.

SOLICITOR-GENERAL. Mr. Cairns (39). Sir F. Kelly.

UNDER SECRETARY AT THE FOREIGN-OFFICE. Mr. S. Fitzgerald (43). Lord Stanley.

UNDER SECRETARY OF THE HOME DEPARTMENT. Mr. Hardy (44). Sir W. Jolliffe.

UNDER SECRETARY FOR THE COLONIES. Lord Carnarvon. Earl of Desert.

UNDER SECRETARY FOR WAR. Viscount Hardinge (36). B. Hawes, Esq.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE. Mr. Adderley (44).

JUDGE ADVOCATE. Mr. E. Egerton (42). Mr. Baines.

LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND. Earl of Eglington (46). Earl of Eglington.

LORD CHANCELLOR OF IRELAND. Mr. Napier. Mr. Blackburie.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL FOR IRELAND. Mr. Whiteside. Mr. Napier.

SECRETARY FOR IRELAND. Lord Naas (36). Lord Naas.

LORD ADVOCATE. Mr. Inglis. Mr. Inglis.

SOLICITOR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND. Mr. Peircey. Mr. Neave.

Mistress of the Robes. Duchess of Manchester.

Lord Steward. The Marquis of Exeter.

Lord Chamberlain. Earl Delawarr.

Master of the Horse. Duke of Beaufort.

Master of the Buckhounds. Earl of Sandwick.

Vice-Chamberlain of the Household. Lord Newport.

Treasurer of the Household. Lord Clatide Hamilton.

Comptroller of the Household. Colonel Forrester.

hold. Earl Talbot.

Captain of the Gentlemen-at-Arms. Earl Talbot.

Clerk of the Council in Waiting. Hon. W. Bathurst.

It is stated that the following appointments have also been made:—Chief Equerry and Clerk Marshal: Lord Colville. Lords in Waiting: Earl of Verulam, Earl of Sheffield, Viscount Strathallan, Lords Bateman, Byron, Crofton, Polwarth, and Raglan. Lord in Waiting to the Prince Consort: Lord Bagot.

The name of Sir E. Bulwer Lytton does not appear in the list of new Ministers, but this omission does not arise from any division between him and the leaders of the party which has now ascended to power. The administration of the Colonial Department was offered to Sir B. Lytton. At the present moment, however, he does not think it advisable to seek re-election at the hands of his constituency.

Hertfordshire would be hotly contested, and if any untoward event should occur, the loss of so useful a debater would be severely felt by his party in the House of Commons.

We have authority to state that Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, who has for so many years and with so much dignity represented England as Ambassador

at the Ottoman Porte, has resigned that high office. Lord Cowley will continue to be her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris.—*Times*.

**THE PRIVATE SECRETARIES.**—The Lord Chancellor has appointed Mr. William Carmalt Scott, of the Chancery bar, to be his principal secretary. Colonel Patrick Talbot is appointed one of the private secretaries to the Earl of Derby. Col. Edward Wilbraham is acting for his lordship in Downing-street until the second private secretary is appointed. Mr. John Bidwell and Mr. Drummond Wolff, of the Foreign-office, are appointed private secretaries to the Earl of Malmesbury, and Mr. W. J. P. Dashwood, also of the Foreign-office, is appointed précis writer. Mr. Ernest Percival is appointed private secretary to Mr. Walpole, at the Home-office. Mr. W. F. Higgins is appointed private secretary to Lord Stanley, at the Colonial-office. Lord Colchester has appointed Mr. Charles Francis Scott, of the Post-office, to be his private secretary. Mr. George Thomson, advocate, is appointed secretary to John Inglis, Esq., the Lord-Advocate. Mr. John Clarke Brodie, writer to the Signet, is appointed Registrar of Sasines, Edinburgh.

It is now said that Sir F. Thesiger's title will be Lord Chelmsford, instead of Lord Woodstock, which latter, as we have already stated, is one of the titles of the Duke of Portland.

The first Cabinet Council of the new Government was held on Saturday afternoon, at the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury, in Downing-street. The Ministers present were—the Earl of Derby, the Lord Chancellor, the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of Hardwicke, the Right Hon. B. Disraeli, Mr. Secretary Walpole, the Earl of Malmesbury, Lord Stanley, General Peel, Sir John Pakington, the Earl of Ellenborough, the Right Hon. J. W. Henley, and Lord John Manners. The Council sat two hours.

Lord Stanley's acceptance of a seat in the new Cabinet supplies the first instance (observes a writer in the *Illustrated London News*) of a father and son sitting in the same cabinet since the time of the great Lord Burleigh and his celebrated son, Sir Robert Cecil.

#### CENTENARY FESTIVAL OF THE ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL.

On Saturday evening the London Tavern was the scene of one of the most interesting charitable festivals of the year, namely, the one hundredth anniversary of the Orphan Working School, originally established in 1758, in a small house in Hoxton, for 20 boys, but now located in a spacious and handsome building in Maitland-park, Haverstock-hill, and affording board, lodging, and education to 260 orphan children of both sexes. That the school faithfully discharges its task in providing these three great requisites was satisfactorily proved by the healthy and respectable appearance of the children when introduced to the company on Saturday evening, by their well-trained deportment, and by the very creditable manner in which they executed some music which had been arranged for them on the tonic-sol-fa method. The special object of the festival was the establishment of a centenary fund, to be applied to such an enlargement of the present building as should enable the committee to increase the number of children from 260 to 400; and for this, it appears, and for the maintenance of the additional children, a sum of 25,000*l.* will be necessary; 3,000*l.* has already been received, and we are happy in being able to add that that sum was nearly doubled by the collection of Saturday evening. An unusual interest was given to the festival by the fact of Lord John Russell having consented to preside.

On the removal of the cloth the CHAIRMAN gave in their usual order the customary loyal toasts, taking occasion when proposing "Prince Albert and the rest of the Royal Family," to make a graceful allusion to the recent royal wedding, and to pay a well-merited compliment to the virtues and accomplishments of the Princess Frederick William of Prussia. In proposing "the Army and Navy," his lordship paid an eloquent tribute to the deeds of our army before Delhi, and its endurance in Lucknow.

His lordship next proceeded to give the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Orphan Working School." He said that a person no less eminent for his benevolence than for his professional eminence and skill—he meant Sir Benjamin Brodie—had recently observed that the London charities were put upon their defence. He (Lord J. Russell) thought it were well if it were so, as it was right that men should now and then look into their work, and see whether their benevolent intentions were properly carried into effect; but he believed that if the test were applied to the Orphan Working School, it could honestly and fairly stand the criticism. (Hear, hear.) It had been founded a century ago for only 20 boys, to which at a subsequent period 20 girls were added, but by persevering in the good work the members were increased to 260, and the fine building they now possessed was erected on Haverstock-hill. Any one who took the trouble to visit that institution would see that, whether as regarded the objects intended, or the mode in which the institution was conducted, it was well worthy of such examination and of general support. (Hear.) In the first place, it was intended for orphans, that was to say, for children who had lost their natural guardians, and who would otherwise be exposed to destitution and its too frequent concomitant, guilt, for, in the absence of the means of subsistence, the temptation was strong to obtain them by criminal and disreputable acts. It was proved by statistics that a third, and in some cases the half, of the whole

number of our juvenile offenders, consisted of orphans, or of the children of persons the engrossing character of whose labour prevented the care necessary for infancy and youth. He thought, therefore, that the company would agree with him there was no better way in which the charity of society could expend itself than in the support of an orphan school. (Hear, hear.) In the next place, they had to consider in what manner the orphans of the present institution were treated; and he thought it would be found, on careful inquiry, that the committee had left nothing undone to carry out successfully the benevolent object in view. He had had on the previous day the pleasure of visiting the institution on Haverstock-hill, and it was his duty to say that it gave him extreme pleasure and satisfaction to see the manner in which it was conducted. The site of the building was most healthful; and, in addition, everything was done that a thoughtful care for the health of the children could suggest. So successful had been the precautions taken in this direction that whereas in the first establishment of the institution the mortality amongst the children was eleven per cent., it was subsequently reduced to six, and now it was less than two per cent. per annum. (Cheers.) In the next place, the education given was of a plain but substantial kind, and had the great merit of being religious without being sectarian or exclusive. (Hear, hear.) The scale of instruction imparted seemed to him to be very well taught, and to make the proper impression on the minds of the children who received it. The girls were fitted for domestic service, and the boys for useful trades, and he was happy to learn that no difficulty was found in launching either forth to the world. Under all these circumstances he trusted that the sustained charity which had already supported the institution for a hundred years would continue to do so, and year by year to extend its sphere of benevolent usefulness. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. JOSEPH SOULE, the indefatigable secretary of the institution, then announced, amid cheers, that the Queen had purchased, on behalf of the Prince of Wales, a second life nomination of 250 guineas. He read a long list of subscriptions, including Lord John Russell and Mr. Gregson, 10*l.* 10*s.* each; Mr. C. E. Mudie, 262*l.* 10*s.*; Mr. J. Remington Mills, the president, 115*l.* 10*s.*; Mr. Coombes, 115*l.* 10*s.*; Sir James Tyler, 52*l.* 10*s.*; and a large number of other subscriptions, including nearly 20*l.* collected by Mr. Soule's son during his voyage to Hong Kong, in October last. The total contributions to the centenary fund since May last have been 4,500*l.*; the subscriptions announced on Saturday night alone being 2,513*l.* The ladies have raised no less than 320*l.* It must be very gratifying to the friends of the charity to know that last year "the old scholars" raised 100 guineas towards the centenary fund. It is a worthy tribute of their gratitude to an institution by which they have so largely profited.

Mr. T. HANKEY, M.P., in proposing the health of the chairman, recalled the period not long since when every corner of that large room was filled, and they, the citizens of London, met to consider whether they should again send the noble lord as their representative to Parliament. (Great cheering.) It was his (Mr. Hankey's) duty on that occasion to ask every citizen present whether the noble lord had ever done anything to forfeit their confidence, and there were many again in that room who could well remember the cheer with which that call was responded to. (Loud cheers.) That was a great political occasion, this was a social one, but no less useful, and would, he was sure, equal the former in one particular—viz., the fervour with which the noble lord's name would be received by the company. (Loud and protracted cheering.)

Lord J. RUSSELL, in returning thanks, said with reference to his public conduct, that having had a choice he had always elected to do that which appeared to him to be right, and never to endeavour to secure applause or to escape censure by pursuing an opposite course. He had always done that which appeared to him best for the country, no matter whether others thought differently. They might, perhaps, be right, he did not know. (Cheers and laughter.) One word more with regard to the charity. He always considered it an advantage of meetings of this kind that they enabled men who were at other times absorbed in business pursuits, as it were, to go out from themselves, to consider others besides themselves, and to nourish the kindlier feelings of the heart, otherwise so likely to be deadened in the absorbing pursuits of the various avocations of life. (Hear.) He therefore, while he congratulated the children on the happy home and good care provided for them, also congratulated the liberal donors and supporters of the charity on the opportunity afforded them of nourishing their better nature, and of promoting their own happiness by thus performing a duty to God and their fellow-creatures. (Cheers.)

The remaining toasts on the chairman's list were then disposed of, and the company separated.

#### THE NEW ELECTIONS.

The following are the re-elections which will be necessary before Lord Derby's administration can present a full front to Parliament: Buckinghamshire, Mr. Disraeli; King's Lynn, Lord Stanley; University of Cambridge, Mr. Walpole; Droitwich, Sir J. Pakington; Huntingdon, General Peel; Oxfordshire, Mr. Henley; North Wiltshire, Mr. Estcourt; North Staffordshire, Mr. Adderley; East Suffolk, Sir F. Kelly; Belfast, Mr. Cairns; North Leicestershire, Lord John Manners; South Shropshire, Lord Newport; county of Dublin, Colonel Taylor; Bridgnorth, Mr. Whitmore; Cockermouth, Lord Naas; county Tyrone, Lord C. Hamilton; Wenlock, Col.

Forester; North Northumberland, Lord Lovaine; Chichester, Lord H. Lennox; Enniskillen, Mr. Whiteside.

In his address to his late constituents Mr. Disraeli says:—

The circumstances of the country are in many respects critical, and in none more so than in its external relations. *Painful misconceptions* have arisen with the Government of that faithful and powerful ally who in so many instances has proved his good feeling and fidelity to this country. Believing that a cordial alliance between England and France is equally conducive to the interests of both countries, I shall express my hope and conviction that, by measures at once firm and conciliatory, these causes of misunderstanding may be speedily and entirely removed. If the country will heartily support the Queen's Government at this conjuncture, a result so desirable for the peace and progress of Europe will be greatly facilitated.

Sir John Pakington appeals, like Mr. Disraeli, to the country for its support, and gives one peculiar reason:—

It is essential to the well-working of our system of parliamentary government that the people should not suppose there is only one man who can guide the State, or only one party who can be intrusted with the public interests. That the new Ministry will have to contend with difficulties cannot be denied; and there is, doubtless, in some respects, ground for anxiety in the present aspect of affairs. But we believe there is no existing difficulty over which, with the blessing of Divine Providence, and the support of the British people, we may not hope to triumph.

Hr. Henley promises to devote his best energies to the various questions now before Parliament and the country, be they foreign, Indian, financial, or social.

The new Dean of Faculty, Mr. Inglis, is to be returned for the borough of Stamford, vacant by Sir F. Thesiger's elevation. He has already issued his address, in which he says it is for Parliament and the constituencies to say whether Lord Derby is worthy of support in his efforts to administer public affairs with a due regard to the dignity and honour of England, and at the same time a calm and courteous consideration and treatment of the just claims and expectations of foreign nations.

It appears to me to be the duty of every public spirited and generous man to give the new Administration a hearty support, until their measures are brought before Parliament, and then fairly and dispassionately to judge them by their measures.

Sir Fitzroy Kelly is the most explicit of all the members of the new Government seeking re-election, but then it is to be observed that he is not a Cabinet Minister. He says:—

The Ministry has been dissolved by a vote of the House of Commons, implying a direct censure of their policy upon a question which, though connected with our foreign relations, more immediately affected the independence of the Parliament of Great Britain. While all were prompt to admit the importance of our alliance with France, and with the Sovereign who now rules that great country, I, in common with the chiefs of the Conservative party in the House of Commons, supported the amendment to the bill on the ground that the provisions of the bill afforded no effective remedy to the evils proposed to be redressed, and that the bill itself was an invasion of the principle of independent action which has hitherto been held sacred alike by the Parliament and the people. It would obviously be premature to enter at this early period into the views and intentions of a Government which has yet scarcely come into existence, but I may venture to assure you that if we are fortunate enough to enjoy the confidence and receive the support of the constituencies of the empire we shall bring to a satisfactory conclusion the great question affecting the fate of our dominions in the East, and that we shall advance the cause of law reform, and of the civil administration of the affairs of the State, so as to satisfy the just expectations of the country. My sentiments on parliamentary reform are well known to you all. When the time shall have arrived for the further consideration of this all-important question, I shall be found ready to support and assist in any measure for the extension of the elective franchise to every man in Britain qualified by property or by education to exercise it with independence and intelligence. A redistribution of the boroughs and towns possessed and unpossessed of the franchise, so that all above the rank of villages may be represented in the Legislature, is, in my opinion, called for upon every ground of justice and expediency. For why should Yarmouth return two members to Parliament while Lowestoft is without any representative at all? I think also that the proportion between the numbers of the population and its representatives should be much more just and proximate throughout the counties and towns of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

#### Court, Official, and Personal News.

Nearly all last week her Majesty remained indoors, no doubt to be in the way to receive the Earl of Derby's reports of his progress in the formation of the Government. Every day his lordship had an audience of the Queen. On Thursday evening, however, she was able to leave Buckingham Palace, and went to the Haymarket Theatre, accompanied by the Prince Consort, the Prince of Wales, and the Princess Alice. The Queen held a Court and Privy Council on Friday. At the Court, Lord Cranworth delivered up the great seal, the late Secretaries of State gave up their seals, and other members of the late Government and officers of the Household surrendered their seals, wands, and keys. Lord Palmerston had audience upon his retirement, having no mark of office to give up. Then the Earl of Derby, the Marquis of Exeter, Earl Delawarr, the Duke of Beaufort, Earl of Sandwich, Lord Talbot, Lord Claude Hamilton, Lord Newport, and Mr. Cecil Forrester, kissed hands upon their appointments to various offices. At the Privy Council, Sir

Frederick Thesiger was sworn in a Privy Councillor, and afterwards sworn into office as Lord Chancellor, and received the great seal from the Queen. Lord Tanley, Lord Talbot, the Duke of Beaufort, General Peel, Mr. Adderley, and Mr. Sootheron Estcourt, were sworn in as Privy Councillors. Mr. Disraeli, Lord Hardwicke, and the new Secretaries of State, received their seals. Lord Eglinton was declared Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Sir John Pakington, Lord Ellenborough, Lord Colchester, Mr. Adderley, Mr. Estcourt, and Lord John Manners, kissed hands on their appointments to office.

Her Majesty and the Prince Consort, accompanied by the youthful members of the royal family, left Buckingham Palace on Monday morning for Osborne, where the Court will remain until the 14th inst. It is expected that the Queen and Prince Consort, during their residence at Osborne, will visit the *Euryalus*, Captain Tarleton, C.B., in which fine ship Prince Alfred is shortly to embark on a voyage round the world.

Lord Panmure will shortly leave town for Scotland for some weeks, and it is understood that Lord John Russell is about to resume the occupation of his house in Chesham-place.

Earl Stanhope has been elected Lord Rector of the Aberdeen University.

The late Ministry did not fail to fill up all vacancies before leaving office as the following announcements will show:

The Right Hon. W. G. Hayter has accepted the offer of a baronetcy, which Lord Palmerston expressed his desire to recommend her Majesty to bestow on him. A similar offer had been before made to the right hon. gentleman, and declined.

The Duke of Devonshire, the Duke of Wellington, and the Earl of Harrowby will have the vacant Garters.

—*Globe.*

Mr. Griffiths, the distinguished Irish civil engineer, is also to be made a baronet. —*Morning Post.*

Mr. Adam Bittlestone, of the Midland circuit, who for several years reported its proceedings for this journal, has been appointed by the late Ministry to the vacant Indian Judgeship. —*Times.*

The Rev. Geo. E. L. Cotton, master of Marlborough College, has been appointed to the Bishopric of Calcutta, vacant by the death of the late Dr. Wilson. —*Daily News.* Mr. Cotton was educated at Westminster School, and elected from the Foundation to Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1832. His career as assistant-master at Rugby under Dr. Arnold, and subsequently as head of Marlborough School, have well prepared him for a wider field of usefulness. —*Times.*

It is, we understand, in contemplation to constitute a see of Agra. —*Daily News.*

Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint Sir Henry Davison, Puisne Judge at Madras, to be Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Judicature at Bombay, vice Sir William Yardley. —*Thacker's Overland News.*

On leaving the Treasury, Mr. James Wilson will, it is stated, acquire and receive a pension of 1,200*l.* a year. —*Daily News.*

The *Gazette* of Friday contains a general order announcing that the Queen has commanded that Colonel James Hope Grant be promoted to Major-General in the army, in consequence of his eminent services in command of the cavalry division at Delhi, and in command of a division at Lucknow; also in the total defeat of the rebels at Cawnpore.

The elder of the Oude Princes in England died on Thursday night. He was brother to the King, and General of the Oude Native force.

Lord and Lady John Russell have left Farrance's Hotel, Belgravia, for Pembroke Lodge, Richmond Park.

### Miscellaneous News.

**FATAL COLLIERY EXPLOSION.**—Another of those perpetually recurring disasters—coal-pit explosions—is reported from Merthyr, near Cardiff. Out of thirty-men who were in the pit at the time, nineteen were killed.

**MURDER IN THE HAYMARKET.**—Heloise Jaubin, an unfortunate, the wife of a workman at Paris, from whom she is separated, was found strangled at her lodging, Arundel-court, Haymarket, on Thursday last. It appears that an Italian named Ladi had been with her on the previous evening. The police commenced a search for him, and at length he was found on board a ship about starting for Monte Video, and in possession of various articles of property belonging to the deceased. He has been committed for trial.

**THE STEAM FLEET IN RESERVE** at Portsmouth is getting ready for equipment at the shortest notice. The ships composing it, especially the line-of-battle ships, are tried almost daily, and the staff of the steam reserve are indefatigably employed in getting the ships' machinery into reliable working order. The *Duke of Wellington*, *Caesar*, *Victor Emmanuel*, and *Algiers*, are the most forward, and are expected to be the next large ships commissioned. The gun-boats at Haslar are also under course of overhaul.

**ICE-BOUND.**—On the evening of the 24th ult. the attention of some persons was attracted to an object in a pond in a brickyard near Barnsley. On proceeding to examine it they found a man up to the neck in water, with a collar of ice round his neck, which kept him fixed as in a vice. He was taken out quite insensible, and prompt efforts were made to restore him, but four hours elapsed before he recovered. He turned out to be a blacksmith from Silkstone, and had fallen into the pond while returning home in a state of intoxication.

**PRESENTATION OF A TESTIMONIAL TO THE REV. EDWARD MATHEWS.**—On Tuesday evening week the Rev. Edward Mathews, who is about to return to America, was entertained by the committee of the Leeds Young Men's Anti-Slavery Society, at a fare-

well complimentary soirée, at Andrew's Hotel. After tea the chair was taken by Mr. John Scarth. Mr. J. A. Horner, hon. sec., then read an address to Mr. Mathews, which was presented along with a handsome writing desk. Mr. John Wood next, on behalf of the Leeds Anti-Slavery Association, presented Mr. Mathews with a purse of five guineas. Mr. Mathews made a very graceful and feeling reply. —*Leeds Mercury.*

**EAST INDIA CADETSHIPS.**—A return has been issued by an order of the House of Commons, of the number of cadetships and different classes of individuals upon whose sons all cadetships for India have been conferred by the Directors of the East India Company and President of the Board of Control, in the several years from 1840 to 1857, both inclusive. The grand total is 5,477. Of these 1,865 are the sons of military, medical, and marine officers and chaplains in the East India Company's service, or sons of civil servants in the Company's service; 717 are sons of military, naval, and medical officers in her Majesty's service; 580 are sons of clergymen, and 2,315 the sons of professional men and others.

**THE AMERICAN HORSE-TRAINER.**—Daniel Sullivan, of Rathnee, near Mallow, "grandson of the old and son of the late Sullivan the whisperer," writing to the *Daily Reporter* in reference to Mr. Rarey, the American horse-tamer, who has lately surprised the Court at Windsor, by his wonderful feats in taming the horse, says that he is ready at any moment and at any appointed place to meet that gentleman, and let a jury decide whether he or Sullivan can perform the most wonderful feats in subduing wild, vicious, and unmanageable horses. He says that he is every day in the habit of performing the same feats as Mr. Rarey did at Windsor. He is well known in Mallow and its neighbourhood, and many of the residents there have seen him perform what he has stated. He hopes that Mr. Rarey will give him an opportunity of proving that there is still left in Ireland one of the "whisperers" who is at least equal, if not superior, to any American or other horse-tamer.

**MEETING OF THE ITALIAN CONSTITUTIONAL PARTY IN LONDON.**—On Monday evening an important meeting of delegates of the Constitutional Party, from different parts of Italy, met in Newman-street, to take into consideration the present aspect of affairs in Europe, in Relation to Italian independence. F. O. V. Borronico was called to the chair. The chairman delivered a speech of considerable length, enlarging especially on the subject of the Alien Bill, and the attempt on the life of the Emperor Napoleon. The following resolution was then submitted to the meeting and unanimously carried:

Resolved that we, the delegates of the National Constitutional League of Italy, have viewed with deep sorrow the late attempts made on the life of the Emperor Napoleon by several of our countrymen, and while deplored the injury such designs must have in bringing into disrepute the efforts unceasingly made by our friends to advance the interests of our country, we desire, at the same time, to utterly repudiate the idea of giving countenance to acts, which, far from exciting our sympathy, call forth our strongest indignation.

The resolution was received with loud cheers, and the meeting was then adjourned till the next day.

**A CHURCH DESTROYED BY FIRE.**—On Sunday morning a fire took place in the recently built church of St. Paul, Herne-hill, Dulwich. It appears that according to custom, the fires were lighted on Saturday to warm the edifice for Divine service the following morning. About two o'clock in the afternoon of Saturday, it was found that one of the hot air flues had, owing to the intense heat, become ignited, but those in charge of the church imagined that they had succeeded in getting the burning soot extinguished. In the course of the night, however, flames issued from various parts of the building. The London engines were quickly called into requisition, they being fed by two excellent supplies of water from the Lambeth plugs, but it was found necessary to pump the engines from a distance of 440 feet from the scene of conflagration, and the water had to be forced up the hill. They had no sooner got their engines into full play than the flames extended to the galleries and the organ. The moment the pipes of that instrument became melted the fire descended upon the pews and sittings in the aisle. The steeple and vestry were saved.

**THE LATE HUGH MILLER'S MUSEUM.**—At a recent meeting of the Edinburgh Town Council the Lord Provost reported the steps that had been taken to secure for the country the valuable geological museum of the late Hugh Miller. He stated that very recently after Mr. Miller's death he entered into communication with Government with the view to induce them to purchase that museum. The Government remitted it to certain gentlemen in Edinburgh to examine it, and report on its value, and these gentlemen recommended that an offer of 500*l.* should be made for the collection, that sum being, in their opinion, its value. Since then, however, a nobleman had offered 1,000*l.* for it, and an offer of 1,000 guineas had come from America. He had urged on Government to amend their offer, but had not succeeded in inducing them to do so. It had, however, been resolved by gentlemen taking an interest in the matter to organize a subscription to raise 600*l.* to supplement the offer of Government—assuming that any Ministry who might succeed the present would be at least willing to give 500*l.* It had been resolved to limit the subscriptions to 1*l.*, so as to allow to a larger number the opportunity of thus showing their regard for the memory of the deceased. The museum, when acquired, would belong to the nation.

Another great Exhibition in London, in 1858, has been suggested. It is proposed to make it a fine art exhibition.

### Law, Police, and Assize.

#### THE BRITISH BANK DIRECTORS.

The trial of the Directors of the Royal British Bank, on the charge of conspiring, by false representations, to defraud the shareholders and customers and the public, was resumed on Wednesday at the Guildhall, before Lord Campbell and a special jury. The case for the prosecution closed on that day. Mr. Paddison was again a principal witness, having appeared in the box eight times. It was shown that as early as the first months of 1855, the Directors must have known that the bank ought to stop. "Past-due bills" amounting to 88,844*l.* were treated as "assets," interest was charged upon them, and thus was made to swell the "profits." It was shown that Mr. Stapleton never had any accommodation from the bank; that he acted strictly as a director; that he got Mr. Brown dismissed, and caused Cameron to resign; and that in 1856 he opposed the declaration of a dividend. Cameron protested against the issue of new shares until the past-due bills were examined. It was shown that the notorious "green ledger" had been under the eyes of several Directors; that Cameron obstructed Mr. Vaillant when he desired to look into the accounts; that some of the Directors bought back shares from persons who had been induced to buy them by false representations of the state of the bank. Several shareholders were called to prove that they had been deceived by reports issued by the defendants.

A strong stand was taken by Mr. Stapleton's counsel in favour of their client. They represented him as one who had been deceived all along. Defences were set up for each of the defendants by their counsel. The counsel for the Directors laid all the blame on Cameron; the counsel for Cameron said that the bank would have done well had his advice been taken.

On Friday Mr. Atherton replied for the prosecution. He contended that the evidence that had been offered was such as included the whole of the defendants as having a guilty knowledge of what they were doing, and that they knew of it at the time.

On Saturday morning Lord Campbell summed up with great care. The Chief Justice analysed the evidence as it affected the seven gentlemen accused, and in doing so he strongly pronounced in favour of Mr. Stapleton, declaring himself to be of opinion that the prosecution against that individual should have been withdrawn. He did not conclude till twenty minutes past four.

The jury then retired to consider their verdict, and at six o'clock they returned into court. The foreman said the jury were unanimous to find three of the defendants guilty, and eleven of the jury had agreed to find them all guilty, but he (the foreman) dissented from the latter verdict. Lord Campbell said the verdict of the jury must be unanimous. The jury must retire and reconsider their verdict. In answer to a question from a juror, Lord Campbell said that before convicting any one of the defendants the jury must be persuaded that he was acquainted with the insolvency of the bank, and knew that the balance-sheet was not a true representation of the state of its affairs. The jury then again retired, and after some time they sent for Kennedy's letter to Cameron, of the 16th of May, 1855. The letter was sent to them by Lord Campbell's directions; and at a few minutes past eight they returned into court. The foreman then said that they found all the defendants *Guilty*; but strongly recommended four of them—viz., Stapleton, Kennedy, Owen, and Macleod, to the mercy of the Court.

The defendants having been all called to take their places on the floor of the court, Lord Campbell said:

I shall first pass sentence upon you, Humphrey Brown, Edward Esdale, and Hugh Innes Cameron. After a long, and, I hope, impartial trial, you have been convicted by a jury of your country, upon the clearest evidence, of an infamous crime. You were charged with conspiring to deceive and defraud the shareholders of the bank to which you belonged by false representations, and it is clear that you did so. I acquit you of having originated this bank with the fraudulent intent to cheat the public; but it is now demonstrated that for years you have carried on a system of deliberate fraud, and fabricated documents, for the purpose of deceiving the public, for your own direct or indirect benefit. It would be a disgrace to the law of any country if this were not a crime to be punished. It is not a mere breach of contract with the shareholders or customers of the bank; but it is a criminal conspiracy to do what inevitably leads to great public mischief, in the ruin of families, and reducing the widow and orphan from affluence to destitution. I regret to say that in mitigation of your offence it was said that it was a common practice. Unfortunately, a laxity has been introduced into certain commercial dealings, not from any defect in the law, but from the law not being put in force; and practices have been adopted, without bringing a consciousness of shame, and I fear without much loss of character among those with whom they associate. It was time a stop should be put to such a system, and this information was properly filed by her Majesty's Attorney-General, and the jury have properly found you guilty. I hope it will now be known that such practices are illegal, and will not only give rise to punishment, but that no length of investigation, no intricacies of accounts, and no devices will be able to shield such practices. On account of this being the first prosecution of this nature I pronounce a milder sentence than I otherwise should: but the mildest sentence that I can pronounce upon you, Humphrey Brown, Edward Esdale, and Hugh Innes Cameron, is that you be imprisoned in the Queen's prison for one year.

Richard Hartley Kennedy, the jury have recommended you to mercy, and I think there are grounds which justified them in coming to that conclusion; but still there is strong evidence against you. That paper for which the jury sent shows that, though you were a respectable member of society, and filled creditably the

office of sheriff, you lent yourself to this deception. You did not derive any personal advantage from it, but it is clear to my mind that when you joined in that last report you were fully aware that the bank was insolvent, and you knew it to be false. The lightest sentence I can give you is nine months' imprisonment in the Queen's Prison.

William Daniel Owen, the jury have found that you also had a guilty knowledge of the insolvency of the bank when you concurred in that report and balance-sheet, and I cannot say they were wrong, for you had long been a director, and had ample means of information, and several papers read show that. Therefore, though I think you are less guilty, you must be imprisoned for six months.

Henry Dunning Macleod, the jury, who are the proper judges of the fact, have found you also guilty. The sentence upon you is that you be imprisoned for three months.

John Stapleton, the jury have found you guilty; but I cannot conscientiously order you to do more than pay a fine of £1. to her Majesty and be discharged.

Mr. Kennedy applied that execution of the sentences might be deferred till Monday, in order that arrangements might be made.

Lord Campbell.—I will not delay execution of the sentence for a single moment. (Applause.)

The defendants were then removed in custody.

Lord Campbell, in reply to Mr. Atherton, then said that if he could make the jurymen a recompence adequate to their services it would be a very high one, but the law had provided that one guinea a day should be given to special jurymen, and that was all he could award. Each jurymen would, therefore, receive thirteen guineas.

**SENTENCE OF DEATH.**—Two Greek sailors, Zelphanta and Italius, were convicted at the South Wales assizes, on Saturday, of the murder of one of their comrades at Swansea, on the 6th October, and sentence of death was passed on them.

**MR. GLOVER AND THE PROPERTY QUALIFICATION.**—The trial of Mr. Glover, late M.P. for Beverley, at the Central Criminal Court, on a charge of making a false declaration to the House of Commons, has been postponed for the third time, a surgeon having certified that he is so ill that the trial, at present, would endanger his life.

**TRIAL FOR ARSON.**—At the Lancaster assizes, Mr. George Thwaites has been tried for employing James Holden to set fire to his mill at Euxton, with intent to defraud a fire-office. Holden having pleaded "guilty" to the charge of arson, was admitted as a witness. His testimony was not corroborated, and the jury did not believe him: they acquitted Mr. Thwaites. A burst of applause followed.

**SELLING THE BODIES OF PAUPERS.**—At the Central Criminal Court, on Wednesday last, Alfred Feist, late master of Newington Workhouse, was tried for illegally disposing of the bodies of paupers for dissection for his own profit. The chief witness against him was Robert Hogg, the parish undertaker, who made a "good thing" by every body thus disposed of. Feist was convicted; but a number of legal points were reserved in his favour, and he was liberated on bail. The jury expressed their regret that Hogg had not been prosecuted; but this man had unbosomed himself to the guardians under a promise of indemnity for his acts: apparently, he made more by the improper disposal of the bodies than Feist did.

**THE ALLEGED LIBEL ON THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.**—On Saturday, Edward Truelove, the keeper of a bookstall and shop near Temple-bar, Strand (who had been remanded from the previous Monday on bail), attended at the Bow-street police-court to answer the charge of having published a pamphlet, entitled "Tyrannicide; is it justifiable? By W. E. Adams"—purporting to be a "false, malicious, scandalous, and seditious libel, of and concerning the Emperor of the French, with the view to incite divers persons to murder his said Majesty." Mr. Bodkin appeared, as before, on behalf of the Crown. The defendant was not represented by counsel on this occasion, but by Mr. Leverton, a solicitor. Mr. Bodkin asked for a committal. Mr. Leverton said his client was a humble man, and could have made his peace by apologising and submitting to a nominal conviction; but he preferred to risk his little all rather than betray the cause which he felt was entrusted to him. He had already withdrawn the pamphlet, not because he thought there was any harm in it, but because he did not feel in a position to fight the Government. Being a poor man, he (Mr. Leverton) wished to save him the expense of a trial. The securities having been renewed, Mr. Henry committed the defendant for trial.

**RAILWAY COLLISION.**—At the same assizes, Chas. White, late station master at Stormy station, on the South Wales Railway, was charged on the coroner's inquisition with the manslaughter of Sarah Ann Harmer, near Pyle. It may be remembered that on October 14, two passenger trains, running on the South Wales Railway, met at full speed on the same line of rails between Pyle and Port Talbot stations, causing the death of three persons and the maiming of sixty others. The deceased was one of the killed, and was travelling with her aunt in a third-class carriage, which was smashed. The cause of the collision was the sending a down train on the up line of rails by the prisoner, who declared that in consequence of a goods train having broken down between Pyle and Port Talbot he had been telegraphed to from Port Talbot station to send the train on the wrong line of rails, on the understanding that all up trains would be stopped in the mean time. The obstruction of the goods train, however, having been removed, the up trains were sent on and met the

down trains on the same line. The jury found a verdict of guilty, but strongly recommended the prisoner to mercy. His lordship, in passing sentence, said he did so with considerable reluctance, believing that the occurrence arose from excess of zeal on his part; but he had been guilty of most culpable rashness. He then passed the sentence of a month's imprisonment.

### Literature.

**Principles of Natural Theology.** By R. A. THOMPSON, M.A. London: Rivingtons.

**Theism.** By JOHN ORR. London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.

**The Philosophy of Theism.** London: Ward and Co.

**The Philosophy of the Bible.** By the Rev. I. WHYTE MAILLER. Edinburgh: James Hogg.

**Christian Errors Infidel Arguments.** Seven Dialogues. Edinburgh: Elliot.

We are compelled to class the above works together, instead of dealing with them separately, from their being all of them concerned with the same questions. All of them probably owe their production to the stimulus of the Burnett Prize; and the first upon the list is an abridgment of the able essay which obtained the first place in the recent competition. We cannot but rejoice at such a result. Thoughtful men have long since become aware that a somewhat different treatment of the great question of Natural Theology is now demanded from that which Paley has given it in his most beautiful and interesting treatise. Not a few have felt their confidence shaken in that argument from *Design* which he has so ingeniously elaborated; and theologians and professed teachers of religion have spoken depreciatingly of the whole field of evidence upon which "Natural Theology" as a science is based.

One thing is very clear: it is not by the accumulation of details in which a fitness of means to an end is discerned, that this question (we speak of it now quite apart from that revelation by which as Christians we believe that we have access to a Divine Father) is to be solved. With the man who believes, or fancies he believes, that the symmetry of the hexagons of the bee, or the concrete mechanical philosophy of the human body, is the result of mere accident or the particular determination of sundry atoms of carbon, lime, hydrogen or other elements, we can have no argument. Despite the conflict of laws and conditions, and the prevalence of apparent and often wide-spread disorder, not one of the Atheists of the present day, we imagine, would deny that the world is in some sort, to the extent of our limited knowledge, pervaded by a something which, if we knew it to belong to a personal agent, we should pronounce to be Reason or Intelligence.

The authors of the Treatises on Natural Theology, lying before us, seem fully aware of this. Mr. Orr supports his argument in a very interesting manner, by various illustrations from science; but he is none the less aware that the real battle is subsequent to the proof of a reigning order and law. They are also unanimous in rejecting the so-called *a priori* arguments of Anselm, Descartes, Clarke, and others. Accordingly, the ground narrows itself to the following position: to the extent of our knowledge the universe is an embodiment of law, of reason; are we justified in ascribing this reason to a personal being? We could wish that this point had been more distinctly brought out, and more explicitly dealt with. As we have intimated, it is discussed, and especially in the very succinct and valuable abstract of Mr. Thompson's prize essay, but neither in his work nor in the others, with such fulness and directness as we could wish. We have nowhere seen this question more ably handled than in a work to which we recently had occasion to direct the attention of our readers. "Meanwhile," that author writes, "some one asks me, Is it a personal God you believe in? I can understand no other; I cannot conceive intelligence without personality. . . . Take your stand at what era you will, there is a past, a present, a future, that form one whole, developing itself in time. Now my human experience teaches me this: that it is in mind, in consciousness, that such a whole can alone exist; a whole which embraces what has been, what is, and what is yet to be. . . . How can that which is related to that which is not, in any other way than this, that while both exist in the Divine Thought, only one is yet manifested in the progressive evolution of events?"—*Thorndale*, Pp. 422, &c.

The purpose and method of Mr. Thompson's treatise are distinctly set forth in the following paragraph:—

"It is designed to show that man's knowledge of God is as natural and fundamental as his knowledge of other men; that it is of the same character, and rests on a like foundation; that it is gained by means of the same faculties, and in similar spontaneous application of these

faculties; and consequently that it has equal claims to be regarded as valid and unquestionable."—P. 3.

To this end the author enters into analysis of our knowledge in general, which is conducted with singular clearness and force. He shows that while it is true that that knowledge is but relative, it is none the less to be viewed as valid and authentic. It is true we know only phenomena—at least it is phenomena alone with which our various sources of knowledge are conversant—while the things themselves in their essential nature must, in our present state and faculty of cognition, ever elude us. But causality compels us to recognise something at the back of phenomena, which reveals itself to us by them. "All knowledge of the finite postulates a cognition of being, unknown in itself, but mediately known by its manifestations." It is easy to see the bearing of this line of thought upon the doctrine of a Supreme Being revealing himself to us through his works, while his person and essence remain an impenetrable mystery.

Mr. Thompson thus sums up what appear to him the legitimate conclusions capable of being drawn from the argument from *Design*:—

"We may now define the limits of the conclusion which may strictly be drawn from this argument of Natural Theology.

"It establishes our knowledge of Intelligent Power, as the cause of the order and adaptations of the world; but in its usual application, manifests a Wise Architect, rather than a Supreme Creator.

"But it gives no information concerning the manner of existence of that power; whether, for instance, as, in any sense, residing in the hidden powers of the known universe, or distinct from them. Only it is superior, as ruling and disposing them; and this, to the limits of our knowledge of them.

"The argument leads to no knowledge concerning the mode of action, in which the purposes of Intelligence have been impressed upon the known world.

"It cannot even establish with strictness, that the Intelligent Power which ordered things still governs them; and may not have been transient in action, or in being, like the agency of any human designer. The order of spaces unfathomable, the plans of ages unnumbered, the designs of depths unsearchable, suggest, but cannot reach the Infinite.

"It does not solve the question of Divine Liberty or Necessity. Intelligent purpose governs the arrangements of the world, and is thus the motive to their production. But whether that purpose becomes efficient with a human liberty of choice, or is determined by any moral or other previous and predominating necessity, is thus far unknown.

"Nor does it discover to what extent the mind which we recognise in nature is, in other attributes, similar to our own.

On these questions, and on the last especially, we may hope to be farther informed, by extended observation of the designs of nature, and closer examination of the unavoidable conditions of all our knowledge.

Meantime our conclusion must be limited, lest it lose the force it really has, by vain pretensions to what it has not."—Pp. 21, 22.

But it must not be supposed that these propositions are presented as including all that may be drawn from scientific natural theology. It is all that *design*, as such, can teach us. But he goes on to show that there is reason to be found for regarding the Architect as also the Creator. (p. 45.) "To determine all the relations and modalities of things, is to determine their existence, so far as existence can be known to man; since knowledge can never go beyond relational properties and modalities, though they may extend far beyond our knowledge." Can we distinguish between the Power which establishes such relations as exist between certain particles of matter (whatever that mysterious word may imply), as for example between oxygen and hydrogen, oxygen and caloric, oxygen and electricity, oxygen and all other agencies or forces whatever, and the Power which constituted and created oxygen itself? What is oxygen to us but a certain aggregation of forces active and passive? "The relations between them" (to quote again from an author to whom we have already referred) "are of the essence of the thing or the force." It appears to us unquestionable that nature bears testimony to a creative rather than a constructive power. Constructive power is seen in the manufacture of a watch. Here are certain forces ready to hand: cohesion, gravitation, elasticity, &c., and of these the mechanic only so far avails himself that they receive new points of attachment and new directions. The forces themselves remain precisely what they were before. But this is not the activity we mean when we speak of the power of God. If we believe at all in a God that made the world, it is one who by his incomprehensible will and operations caused those very forces of gravitation, of cohesion, of elasticity, to exist as they do. If they can be conceived as existing without a God and a Creator, then there is an end to all natural theology whatever; for it will easily appear that in the vitality and virtue which the mysterious tendencies and laws of the universe imply, lie as in germ all the developments which it is destined to undergo. But, if, as we believe, the unity of these laws, apprehended in part by sense, and grasped at by faith and reason, leads us irresistibly to a Pervading Mind, then is that One Pervading Absolute Mind not merely the Architect but the Creator of the whole.

The author is doubtless right in affirming that illimitable extent of space or duration of ages, "suggest, but cannot prove, the Infinite." Subjection to conditions too may appear positively to infringe upon the infinity of the Creator. In the formation of the skull, for example, the Maker exhibits himself as working in subordination to laws which we are in the habit of designating mechanical. Yet what shall we say of that Power which has—in what manner we know not—awakened in connexion with that organism the incomprehensible and mysterious faculty of sensation, intelligence, emotion? True, sensation, intelligence, emotion, are limited,—just as infinite space is limited by the conception of a geometer who describes a circle with a given radius,—but the thing itself, intelligence, mental power, is beyond all comprehension, and compels us to admit in its Author some virtue generically different from all that we can conceive of, and which no height of finite intelligence could ever hope to comprehend. Why do we so habitually seek for infinity, where we shall never find it, in unlimited space or endless duration? The one mysterious fact of an individual life is as suggestive of infinity when contemplated in the solitary spirit as when multiplied through the universe. God were no less God to us, the Being "whose ways are past finding out," were we alone in it with Him. Perhaps the very manifoldness of his manifestations rather breaks up the grandeur of our conceptions, and tends to degrade our thoughts about the infinite. Creative power may work wherever he is, but the infinity is in Him.

Mr. Orr's book will be read with interest by some to whom the method of Mr. Thompson's will seem too rigid and scientific. It is written with more immediate reference to particular systems of unbelief—as, for example, *Secularism*; and is enriched with much varied and instructive illustration. Not much is achieved by the somewhat clever work entitled "The Philosophy of Theism." The larger portion of the book is occupied with a vindication of Metaphysics, while the part devoted to the proof upon which these preliminaries are brought to bear is extremely meagre. The writer shows not a little acuteness in dealing with some of the subtle questions of Metaphysics, but he does not appear to us to have succeeded in throwing much light upon any of them. His manner, too, of speaking of the authorities he criticises is often dogmatical and arrogant. For example, we find such expressions as the following:—"It does all very well for parties like Isaac Taylor to despise metaphysics," &c. (p. 40). "Mr. John Stuart Mill professes to dispute this point; but he manifestly misunderstands the real point," &c. (p. 27). "Hence the absurdity of the opinion of Lewes, Calderwood, Tappan, and others, that *mere existence implies a cause*" (p. 102). "Hence the absurdity," &c. (ib.). This is what may be called *setting one to rights*. The very striking and singular idea presented on page 70, as indicating a manner in which we may conceive the possibility of the formation of matter, ought scarcely to have been given without ascribing it to its original author.

Mr. Mailler's book is more likely to be read by those who do believe than by those who do not. Its tone has scarcely enough of sympathy and confidence in it to win the willing ear of the sceptical. A man who sets himself to write on Natural Theology, ought to do so with the conviction, which we are sure is true, that every man not altogether vicious in spite of sin and wilfulness, and tendency to shake off a supernatural power which at times will obtrude itself, at the bottom of his heart, in the depths of his being, yet feels that a godless man is an unhappy man, a godless world a cheerless and unhappy world. One of the most serious mistakes in this book is the attempt to vindicate Spinoza from the charges of Pantheism and Necessitarianism. Those who know the "Ethic" of that acute and remarkable thinker will, we imagine, need no proof that the mistake is the author's, not ours. It will be sufficient to refer any who wish to satisfy themselves on this head to Part I. Prop. xxiv. of the treatise we have referred to.

Any system of Natural Theology would be grievously incomplete which should neglect to take into consideration the moral nature of man. It is only here that we find suggestions of other rectitude and goodness than that of symmetry and regularity. Apart from that moral nature, the conception of a good and holy Supreme Being would have been impossible. (See Thompson, pp. 100, 104 foll.) Mr. Thompson considers what is called Free-Will a necessary element in this part of his argument. On any other theory he says, "The difference between vice and virtue is reduced to a mere appearance. Sin is an unmeaning word; for there can be no such thing as opposition to the will of God, if all things are equally determined by causes originating in himself. Thus the existence of evil becomes chargeable on the

Creator, and cannot be reconciled with any conception of his perfect nature and attributes." "Man is (then) a mere worthless link in the chain of Fatalism." We always regret to find writers—as, for example, Sir W. Hamilton—speaking in such wholesale, sweeping terms, of what is called Necessitarianism. Not a few men, divines and philosophers, have managed, and do manage, to retain that philosophy to which, by what seems to them a legitimate process, they have found themselves compelled, and yet to believe in God and in goodness; to love and aspire to virtue and holiness; to loathe and detest moral deformity and wickedness. It is not for the inexorable logician to step in between the thinker and his faith, and interdict him from the sacred worship and comforts of the latter because of certain deductions from the former which from his point of view seem inevitable. The grand philosophy of religion must appeal to the Necessitarian and Free-Will alike. We extract the following passage from the last and that most beautiful chapter of Mr. Thompson's book. He has just been showing how the soul is led to bow before the Infinite and the Eternal:—

"But can its awe be mingled with affection towards him as a father? Can it trust him as benevolent to his creatures? The soul of man is undeniably capable of such feelings. The grateful mind returns thanks with a glad heart, for many blessings of life which are bestowed on all. The good and generous and high-minded spirit may rise, in the happiness of well-doing, to the peace of God which passeth understanding; and, assured in its own feelings, of the affectionate regard of an All-good Benefactor, is moved to worship him with affection.

"But does the same benevolence extend to all? Have all the creatures the means of goodness and happiness within their reach? We can here but touch upon the mysterious question of evil, which, in all times, has engaged some of the deepest and most anxious thoughts of men. God, it is evident, is not that pure and simple benevolence which seeks the happiness of men without regard to their conduct and character. He is not the Creator of one creature, but of many; and the laws of his universe must aim at the general welfare of all. The very laws of man's being bring misery to the vicious and unprincipled.

"But this is no solution of the mystery of evil. For, it may be asked, do not the laws of nature bring misery to the virtuous? Have not these to bear their share of the ills of life, and often to endure them for the vices of others, who contrive to avert suffering by greater villainy?

"Trust in God is often the only answer to such questions. Under the many afflictions and ills of time, it will often fare hardly with the soul that has not learnt to trust in God and to look with confidence to the future. Let it here suffice to state, what I have proved elsewhere by arguments which cannot be answered, that if man be incompetent to solve completely the mystery of the sin and misery which covers the earth, yet even all the wrongs, and all the sufferings of life cannot, by any ingenuity of scepticism, be pressed into a disparagement of the Divine goodness.

"God is too great to refuse his creatures any happiness which can tend to their ultimate advantage. He is too holy, as conscience testifies, to delight in suffering, or even to permit it without purpose: too powerful, as the creation bears witness, not to be able to work his will: too wise, as all his works declare, not to know better than we can what laws of creation will tend to the welfare of the whole, and what condition of life will be most to the advantage of every soul of man.

"He is great and powerful, he is wise and holy; and he is eternal and infinite, beyond conception. Can he then be otherwise than good?"—Pp. 108, 109.

The book last upon our list may appropriately be noticed by itself. The "Seven Dialogues" were "suggested," we are informed, upon the title-page, "by the Burnett Treatises, the Evangelical Prize Essay, and other Apologetics." There is no attempt at that dramatic freshness and reality which charms us so in "Berkeley's Three Dialogues," or Arthur Helps's "Friends in Council." Indeed, the discussions are to a large extent a mosaic of fragments from the Essays of Mr. Thomson, Dr. Tulloch, and the Rev. Thomas Pearson, Miali's "Bases of Belief," Isaac Taylor's "Restoration of Belief," Henry Rogers's "Reason and Faith," &c., interwrought with comments and criticisms by the author who, as *Theologus*, acts the part of umpire and president. The thesis which the main force of his argumentation is directed to the proof of, is enunciated in the following sentence: "We shrink not, therefore, from the assertion that human reason, rightly or conscientiously employed, is at once supreme and infallible." (p. 355.) "If it be conceded," he argues (p. 366) "that man is responsible for *any* of his beliefs, it will follow that he is responsible for *all* of his beliefs, unless some important and well-marked distinction can be pointed out between the beliefs for which we are responsible and those for which we are not responsible. Now, no such distinction has in fact been pointed out and substantiated; nor do we think that it is possible to do so." No doubt it is a glorious thought that the inheritance of truth lies open to every honest man: "Buy the truth and sell it not," were idle words if we had not within us a faculty capable of appreciating the treasure: and the author of this book will have done good service if he have thereby led any to more earnest examination into the grounds of his intellectual and moral beliefs. There can be no question that man is in precisely the same sense respon-

sible for his beliefs, as for his actions. Indeed belief is action, and that conscious and voluntary. But true as this is, there is another truth equally indisputable which our friend *Theologus* seems sometimes to lose sight of, namely, that here "we know in part and prophesy in part." Before us stretches the Land of Promise, ever beckoning us on with its knowledge that is perfect, and its love that is without fault or failure: but till there, one of our most deep and difficult, as well as most useful lessons, is a rightly-founded and charitable patience towards the limitation and blemish which in our present state are the conditions of intellect and of heart.

Our readers will readily believe that it would have been more easy, as well as more satisfactory, to have entered in detail into the subjects upon which we have touched, than to deal with them in the brief compass of a newspaper article. But we have done all that seemed to us practicable amidst a multitude of other claims, and can only, in conclusion, counsel our readers to use their discretion in making a personal acquaintance with the books themselves.

### Gleanings.

A young man in New York advertised for a wife. In less than two hours, we are told, eighteen married men sent in word that he might have theirs.

Little boy: What's the use of an eclipse? Astronomer: Oh, it gives the sun time for reflection.

Lever tells of a Tipperary peasant, when asked to pay for prayers for his son who had come to grief, refused, saying, "My boy, when alive, broke out of every gaol in Munster, and he won't stay long in purgatory."

Mr. Arthur Helps, author of "Friends in Council," &c., and one of the best English prose writers of the day, is about to bring out a tragedy. The title is *Oulita, the Serf*.

The royal family has found it absolutely necessary to decline accepting "manuscript or complimentary poetry." So says the courtly Phipps.

JOHN WESLEY AND THE LITTLE BOYS.—I have a perfect recollection of John Wesley when I was a mere child. He stood preaching on a heap of Norway timber on the quay at Falmouth. A servant taking me out to walk, I saw him in a black gown, his long white hair over his shoulders, as in his portraits, at which I stared as at something wonderful. Children were clambering on timbers close to where I stood. On a sudden he stopped in his discourse, turned round towards them, and called out in a clear, loud tone, "Come down, you boys, or be quiet."—*Redding's Fifty Years' Recollections*.

UNUSUAL SCARCITY OF ICE IN AMERICA.—The prospects of the ice business for the present year are very gloomy. Though no less than 300,000 tons will be needed to supply the demand that will be made in this city for this invaluable luxury during the coming summer and fall, not a block has yet been cut by either the New York or Knickerbocker Ice Company, the only companies which supply the city. Last year all the ice-houses of these companies were full before the end of January, and contained 350,000 tons. Of this immense quantity only about 65,000 tons remain, equally divided between the two companies.—*New York Courier and Inquirer*.

THE PRINCE IMPERIAL AT TWO YEARS OF AGE.—Happening to pass through the Carrousel, at guard mounting, this morning, I saw his Imperial Highness come out of the centre door of the Pavilion de l'Horloge on foot, walking between two governors, and followed by a footman. He was dressed in a sky blue tunic, with a black hat and feather, and dark gaiters. During the whole of his long walk he frequently rejected the proffered assistance of the governesses' hands, and seemed to delight in getting a little before them, to show his consciousness that he was a great personage and their attendants. He walked remarkably quick, with a long even step, putting his little feet firmly on the ground, and every now and then ran a little to leave the governesses behind him. It was the finest thing in the world to see him return the salutes of the sentries, who presented arms to him. He raised his hand to his cap in true military style, just at the proper moment, with an air of modest assurance in which there was nothing playful or childlike. He looked as serious as Tom Thumb used to do when dressed as General Bonaparte. He carried in his hand a little flexible sword, which he brandished continually, with wonderful energy and determination, as if longing for something to strike.—*Paris Letter in the Daily News*.

THE INTERIOR OF CANTON.—It has always been the idea of foreigners that Canton was a city densely crowded with houses in all parts, and hence the belief in its immense population, instead of which the first thing that strikes a stranger is the large space within the walls occupied as kitchen-gardens and fish-ponds, surrounded by low one-storied houses, covering the ground in all directions, but interspersed here and there with larger buildings, having the appearance of mandarin stations and joss-houses. In these kitchen-gardens are grown lettuces, cabbages, seaweeds, turnips, carrots, &c.; and inside and beyond the walls it is said there is a sufficiency of such vegetables for the supply of an army of 10,000 men for six months. In the Tartar city, and particularly towards its western extremity, the houses are larger, and built more closely together, the streets resembling

those usual in Chinese towns, and similar to what used to be seen at the back of the foreign factories. The view from the top of the Square Pagoda, on the wall, is very grand, and from it the discovery is easily made that Canton is really situated on an island, and that not a very large one either.—*China Mail.*

## BIRTHS.

RUSSELL.—Feb. 19, at 8, Eaton-place, West, Lady Elizabeth Russell, of a son.  
GILBERT.—Feb. 20, at Rusholme, near Manchester, the wife of J. M. Gilbert, Esq., of a son.  
WALTER.—Feb. 24, at 40, Upper Grosvenor-street, the wife of J. Walter, Esq., M.P., of a son.

## MARRIAGES.

SHRIMPTON—BADCOCK.—Feb. 11, at Radley Church Abingdon, by the Rev. R. Gibbons, vicar, Mr. Thomas Shrimpton, of Shinsfield, Berks, eldest son of Job Shrimpton, Esq., of Thame, to Thirza, eldest daughter of John Badcock, Esq., of Wick, Abingdon.

BELL—WEBSTER.—Feb. 25, at the Independent Chapel, Hopton, by the Rev. J. Cameron, Mr. Wm. Bell, of Huddersfield, to Hannah, youngest daughter of Abraham Webster, Esq., Ryd's-grove, Mirfield.

FIRTH—CLAY.—Feb. 25, at the New Congregational Church, Square-road, Halifax, by the Rev. J. Firth, late of the Lancashire Independent College, and brother of the bridegroom, Mr. Samuel Firth, of Brook Foot, near Brighouse, to Miss Matilda Clay, of Deighton, near Huddersfield.

FIRTH—FIRTH.—On the same day and place, by the Rev. J. Firth, brother of the bridegroom, Mr. David Firth, of Brook Foot, near Brighouse, to Elizabeth, third daughter of Mr. Joseph Firth, of the firm of Firth, Riley, and Co., cotton spinners, of the same place.

## DEATHS.

L'ESTRANGE.—Oct. 30, at Lucknow, from severe wounds received at the relief of that city under General Havelock, Ferdinand William L'Estrange, Captain in H.M.'s 5th Fusiliers, who commanded the small detachment of that regiment which effected the brilliant relief of Arrah, aged thirty-one years.

JACKSON.—Nov. 18, at Lucknow, Sir Mountstuart Goodrich Jackson, Bart., of the Bengal Civil Service, son of the late Sir Keith Alexander Jackson, Bart., in his twenty-second year. He was most cruelly murdered at the instigation of the Moulvi of Fyzabad, on the day the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Colin Campbell, entered the city, after being basely betrayed by the Rajah Louee Singh, of Mitawlee, who had protected him and his sister, with six other persons, at the flight from Seetapore.

JACKSON.—Feb. 19, at Northallerton, Hannah, daughter of the Rev. Samuel Jackson, Independent minister, aged eighteen years.

JENKINS.—Feb. 20, after a short illness, Rev. Henry Jenkins, the much respected minister of Trinity Chapel, York-street, Plymouth.

GARWOOD.—Feb. 22, at Kilburn, Eliza Mary, third daughter of the Rev. J. Garwood, in her fourteenth year.

RAWLINSON.—Feb. 24, Elizabeth, the beloved wife of Mr. T. Rawlinson, of 16, Skinner-street, Snow-hill, in her eighty-first year.

FRANCIS.—March 1, at his residence, Newmarket, near Nailsworth, Mr. Samuel Enoch Francis, son of the late Rev. Benjamin Francis, A.M., who for forty-three years was pastor of the Church at Shortwood, in his seventy-first year. Mr. Francis was senior deacon of that church, having sustained office with great fidelity for forty-two years. His loss will be deeply felt by that society and a large circle of Christian friends.

CUMMING.—Feb. 24, at his residence, 28, Notting-hill-square, W. Cumming (partner in the firm of Luck, Kent, and Cumming, 4, Regent-street), in his seventy-ninth year.

TOOKE.—Feb. 26, at his residence, 31, Spring-gardens, after a few weeks' illness, Thomas Tooke, Esq., F.R.S., aged eighty-four years.

CUNNINGTON.—Feb. 28, at Brighton, suddenly, Arthur John, youngest son of Mr. Thomas Cunnington, Brentford.

brokers, with liabilities computed at upwards of 100,000/. The assets, it is stated, are sufficient to cover the debts, when realised.

In the general business of the port of London there is remarkable inactivity, the east wind preventing vessels from coming up the Channel. The number of ships reported inward during the past week was 103, including twenty with cargoes of corn, flour, rice, &c., and two from China with 31,650 packages of tea. The number cleared outward was eighty-seven, including ten in ballast. Those on the berth loading for the Australian colonies are forty-three.

The last mail from China brought an unwonted remittance from that bullion-absorbing country—90,000/. in specie.

At an adjourned meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Parry, Brown, and Co., colonial brokers, on Thursday, Mr. Parry attended, and gave some details in explanation of his personal expenditure; which amounted in the seven months from July to January inclusive to 3,168/, the capital of the firm of Parry, Brown, and Co., having been on the 30th of June last only 4,200/. The debts and liabilities of the firm are about 8,653/, and the assets are 1,936/. After considerable discussion and a strong expression of opinion as to Mr. Parry's reckless personal expenditure, and the mode in which the business of the firm had been conducted, it was finally agreed to accept a composition of five shillings in the pound, payable by instalments extending over twelve months.

## PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Cent. Consols	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$
Consols for Account	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 per Cent. Red.	97 $\frac{1}{2}$					
New 3 per Cent.	97 $\frac{1}{2}$					
Annuities	224	221	—	—	225	222
Bank Stock	—	227	226	—	227	226
Exchequer-bills	34 pm	37 pm	39 pm	41 pm	42	42
India Bonds	29 pm	—	29 pm	26 pm	30	30
Long Annuities	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—	—

## The Gazette.

## BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's *Gazette*.)

An Account pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, c. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, Feb. 24, 1858.

## ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£31,204,910	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities	3,459,900
		Gold Bullion	16,819,910
		Silver Bullion	—

## BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital £14,553,000	Government Securities	£29,906,405
Rest 3,685,703	Other Securities	17,164,143
Public Deposits 5,102,656	Notes	11,841,395
Other Deposits 15,496,817	Gold & Silver Coin	803,341
Seven Day and other Bills 877,108		

£31,204,910 £31,204,910 £39,715,284 £39,715,284

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Friday, February 26, 1858.

## BANKRUPTS.

LAST, G. E., Colchester, manure merchant, March 10, April 14.

MCKEAN, R., late of Mark-lane and Corbet-court, City, shipbroker, March 8, April 14.

COUPER, A. A., Winchester-house, Old Broad-street, East India merchant, March 5, April 13.

BARKER, C. T., Moor-terrace, New Peckham, haberdasher, March 9, April 13.

WALLS, E. V., Hemel Hempstead, plumber, March 12, April 13.

YOUNG, T., Hampton-terrace, Hampstead-road, china dealer, March 16, April 13.

OSBORN, W. H., Princes-street, Cavendish-square, silversmith, March 9, April 8.

LEWIS, W., Tipton, Staffordshire, licensed victualler, March 11, April 1.

CRANE, H., Wolverhampton, ironfounder, March 15 and 29.

POWELL, J., Aston, Warwickshire, awl blade manufacturer, March 18, April 8.

OSCROFT, T., Codnor, Derbyshire, grocer, March 18, April 6.

GIBSON, J., Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, Dorsetshire, coal merchant, March 10 and 31.

DOMINY, J., Cerne Abbas, Dorsetshire, fellmonger, March 10 and 31.

INGLEDEW, T. and B., Middlesborough, Yorkshire, coal fitters, March 12, April 9.

NICHOLS, W., Wilsden, Yorkshire, worsted spinner, March 23, April 20.

HODSON, N., Sheffield, joiner, March 13, April 10.

WATERSTON, J. and J., Newcastle-upon-Tyne, smiths, March 5, April 9.

GILL, R. H., Hartlepool, innkeeper, March 11, April 9.

BUCKLEY, S., Ashton-under-Lyne, joiner, March 9 and 30.

GORDON, R., Heaton Norris, Lancashire, ironfounder, March 8, April 14.

WILKINSON, H., Newton-moor, near Hyde, Cheshire, cardmaker, March 16, April 8.

EDWARDS, T., Manchester, cabinet maker, March 13, April 1.

HARDING, V., Liverpool, ironmonger, March 19, April 1.

BEW, J., Manchester, wholesale druggist, March 18, April 8.

Tuesday, March 2, 1858.

## BANKRUPTS.

WATTS, G. W., wholesale cheesemonger, Red Lion-place, Giltspur-street, March 12, April 16.

UFFINDELL, W., licensed victualler, Bow, March 11, April 16.

ROWLAND, R., innkeeper, Chertsey, March 11, April 23.

PENSTON, G. and S., ironmongers, Penton-row, Walworth-road, March 12, April 23.

HOMAN, J., wholesale clothier, Russia-row, Milk-street, Cheapside, March 11, April 16.

SHERRATT, T., flour factor, White Horse-street, Stepney, March 11, April 15.

BARNES, H., milkman, Mountnessing, Essex, and elsewhere, March 15, April 19.

COLLIER, M., yarn manufacturer, Witney, Oxfordshire, March 16, April 13.

ALLEN, J., corn dealer, Oldbury, Worcestershire, March 13, April 8.

WRAGG, J., glass-bottle manufacturer, Barnsley, March 22, April 19.

GILL, S., cutlery manufacturer, Sheffield, March 13, April 24.

JONES, H., brass founder, Sheffield, March 13, April 24.  
LEGO, S., shipwright, Liverpool, March 18, April 8.  
McCALMAN, C., ship-chandler, Liverpool, and Prince Edward's Island, March 19, April 1.  
LORIMER, J., grocer, Rochdale, March 19, April 15.  
SHELLEY, S., power-loom cloth manufacturer, Manchester, March 18, April 13.

## Markets.

## CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, March 1.

The quantity of English wheat offering this morning was small, and the arrivals of foreign since our last have been moderate, the trade was nevertheless very quiet to-day, and excepting for the finest samples, last Monday's prices were with difficulty maintained. Norfolk flour was offering at 3s per sack, but little sold; American barrels being held rather higher, business was checked. Peas fully as dear. Beans unaltered. Barley ready sale at last week's prices. The arrivals of oats were small; the demand, however, was limited, and prices without change. Linseed dull; oaks quite as dear. In cloverseed scarcely anything doing.

## BUTTER.

Wheat	s. a.	WHEAT	s. a.
Essex and Kent, Red	46	Dantzic	53 to 56
Ditto White	48 50	Konigsberg, Red	46 53
Lincs, Norfolk, and	—	Pomeranian, Red	46 50
Yorkshire Red	—	Rostock	46 50
Scotch	40 44	Danish and Holstein	42 47
Eye	32 34	East Friesland	40 44
Barley, malting	38 42	Petersburg	39 43
Distilling	28 30	Riga and Archangel	—
Malt (pale)	66 68	Polish Odessa	40 42
Beans, mazagan	—	Marianopol	

100 tons from China. Coastwise the receipts have been moderate. Good and sound parcels move off steadily at full prices, other kinds very dull.

**WOOL.** Monday, March 1.—The first of the series of public sales of foreign and colonial wool for the present year commenced on Thursday last, and will close about the 18th of March. The quantity to be offered amounts to about 30,000 bales, including a rather large amount of Cape wool, and also some low East India and China descriptions. There was a full attendance of both home and foreign buyers, and the biddings were moderately active. The prices realized, compared with those current at the close of the last sales in December, show an advance of about 9d. to 1d. per lb. on the finer qualities of Australian wool. Cape wools have also shown a slight improvement.

**TALLOW.** Monday, March 1.—There is a fair demand for most kinds of tallow, and late rates are well supported. P. V. C. on the spot is selling at 5d. 9d. per cwt., rough fat 2s 10d. per cwt.

### Advertisements, THE ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.

**PATRON**—H. R. H. the PRINCE CONSORT.

The GREAT SOLAR ECLIPSES of 1858, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Mornings, at Three, and Evenings at a Quarter to Eight.

ENTIRE NEW LECTURE, by J. H. PEPPER, Esq., Illustrated by Correct, Splendid, and New Dissolving Pictures showing the Grand Phenomena of a TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE.

Mr. G. ARMSTRONG COOPER'S New Musical and Pictorial Entertainment, entitled "A VISIT TO THE EGYPTIAN COURT of the CRYSTAL PALACE," with Splendid Photographs and Buffo Songs, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday Evening, at a Quarter-past Eight.

All the other Lectures on the "LEVIATHAN," on "THE SCUTTLE of COALS from the PIT to the FIRESIDE," and on "THE GIANT HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE, with the much admired Dissolving Views, Illustrating the REBELLION in INDIA, as usual.

Admission to the whole, 1s.; Children under Ten, and Schools, Half-price.

N.B. For Hours of other Lectures and Entertainments see Programme for the week, which is sent anywhere for Two Postage Stamps.

**COCOA-NUT FIBRE MATTING.**—TRE-  
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4 Gravy Spoons	"	0 16 6	1 8 0
4 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls	"	0 8 0	0 13 0
Mustard Spoons, ditto, each	"	0 2 0	0 4 0
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12 Dessert ditto 20 7 4 . . . 7 6 8  
2 Gravy Spoons 10 7 4 . . . 3 13 4  
1 Soup Ladle 10 7 4 . . . 3 13 4  
4 Sauce Ladles 10 7 10 . . . 3 18 4  
4 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls . . . . 1 0 0  
1 Fish Slice . . . . 2 10 0  
12 Tea Spoons 16 7 10 . . . 3 18 4  
1 Pair Sugar Tonga . . . . 0 13 6  
1 Moist-sugar Spoon . . . . 0 8 6  
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57 16 2

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2 Gravy Spoons 10 7 4 . . . 3 13 4  
1 Soup Ladle 10 7 4 . . . 3 13 4  
4 Sauce Ladles 10 7 10 . . . 3 18 4  
4 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls . . . . 1 0 0  
1 Fish Slice . . . . 2 10 0  
12 Tea Spoons 16 7 10 . . . 3 18 4  
1 Pair Sugar Tonga . . . . 0 13 6  
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2 Gravy Spoons 11 7 6 . . . 4 2 6  
1 Soup Ladle 11 7 6 . . . 4 2 6  
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"Dr. De Jongh gives the preference to the Light-Brown Oil over the Pale Oil, which contains scarcely any volatile fatty acid, a smaller quantity of iodine, phosphoric acid, and the elements of bile, and upon which ingredients the efficacy of Cod Liver Oil, no doubt, partly depends. Some of the deficiencies of the Pale Oil are attributable to the method of its preparation, and especially to its filtration through charcoal. IN THE PREFERENCE OF THE LIGHT-BROWN OVER THE PALE OIL WE FULLY CONCUR. We have carefully tested a specimen of Dr. De Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil. We find it to be genuine, and rich in iodine and the elements of bile."

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## RUPTURES

## BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN PATENT LEVER TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st. Facility of application; 2nd. Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd. It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day. 4th. It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

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Recommended by the following eminent Surgeons:—William Fergusson, Esq., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College, Surgeon to King's College Hospital, &c.; C. G. Guthrie, Esq., Surgeon to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital; W. Bowman, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to King's College Hospital; T. Callaway, Esq., Senior Assistant-Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; W. Coulson, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the Magdalene Hospital; T. Blizzard Curling, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital; W. J. Fisher, Esq., Surgeon-in-Chief to the Metropolitan Police Force; Aston Key, Esq., Surgeon to Prince Albert; Robert Liston, Esq., F.R.S.; James Luke, Esq., Surgeon to the London Truss Society; Erasmus Wilson, Esq., F.R.S.; and many others.

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**THE BEST FOOD FOR CHILDREN, INVALIDS, AND OTHERS.**

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18, Charlotte-street, Bedford-square.

Sir, — I have carefully analysed a loaf of your Welsh Bread, and I find it to be remarkably pure and sweet, free from all foreign or deleterious admixtures, containing nothing but the best wheat flour and water, mixed with the usual proportions of common salt, free from alum, and fermented in such a way as to render it light and easily digestible. — I am, Sir, your obedient servant, ANDREW URE, M.D., F.R.S., Professor of Chemistry, and Analytical Chemist to the Honourable Board of Customs.

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Prepared White Gutta Percha Enamel, the best Stoppage for Decayed Teeth, renders them sound and useful in mastication, no matter how far decayed, and effectually prevents Toothache. — In boxes, with directions, at 1s. 6d.; free by post, 20 stamps. Sold by most Chemists in Town and Country. Ask for Gabriel's Gutta Percha Enamel. — See opinions of the Press thereon.

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## TEETH!

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### BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS

**PATENT.** — Newly-invented and Patented application of chemically-prepared White and Gum-coloured India-rubber in the construction of Artificial Teeth, Gums, and Palates.

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All sharp edges are avoided; no springs, wires, or fastenings are required; a greatly-increased freedom of suction is supplied; a natural elasticity hitherto wholly unattainable; and a fit, perfected with the most unerring accuracy, is secured, while, from the softness and flexibility of the agents employed, the greatest support is given to the adjoining teeth when loose or rendered tender by the absorption of the gums.

The acids of the mouth exert no agency on the chemically-prepared India-rubber, and, as it is a non-conductor, fluids of any temperature may, with thorough comfort, be imbibed and retained in the mouth, all unpleasantness of smell and taste being at the same time wholly provided against by the peculiar nature of its preparation.

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All sufferers from this complaint (especially those who have been deceived by the pretensions of empirics who have advertised their "so-called" remedies) are earnestly invited to communicate with Dr. Thomson, as he can confidently guarantee them relief in every case. His remedy has been extensively used for many years past with perfect success, and is now made known as a public duty, through the medium of the press. In every case of single or double Rupture in either sex, however bad or long standing, it is perfectly applicable, effecting a radical cure in a short time, without confinement or inconvenience, and it cannot fail to be appreciated as a blessing to those who have been for years, perhaps, obliged to wear galling trusses, or other modes of support. Patients in any part of the Kingdom can have the remedy sent to them, post free (so that no one can know the contents), with full and simple instructions for use, on receipt of 10s. in postage stamps or by post office order, payable at the General Post Office to Dr. Ralph Thomson, 1A, Arlington-street, Hampstead-road, London. Sufferers are informed that this remedy can be procured in **NO OTHER WAY** than by sending direct to Dr. Thomson for it; thus they are effectually protected against the possibility of imposition.

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Pitchley Hall, near Marlbro', March 18, 1857. Sirs.—Having received remarkable gratification in the use of Roper's Royal Bath Plaster, I wish to make my case known for the use of others. Some months ago I caught a severe cold, which brought on shaking fits. These settled in my chest. I became so ill that I required constant attendance. One of Roper's Plasters was applied, which produced relief at once, and now I am fast progressing to a recovery. — I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

I remain, yours truly, ROBERT POTTER.

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